

CRIVICK
of
CHURCH

And Godly
PRAYERS
with

Thankful

Remembrance
of God's won-
derful deliv-
erances of this
Land.

Printed for
the Stationer.

S. M.
R. W. L.

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208

CRYMBS
of
COMFORT

And Godly
PRAYERS
with,

Thankful

Remembrance
of Gods won-
derful delive-
rances of this
Land.

Printed for
Charles Brome.



THE
PRINTER
TO THE
READER.

Courteous Reader,

THE truth I
said in the for-
mer Editions of this
Book; the desire of a
Prayer-Book in this
Volume, was the first
motive that made
me gather some
Prayers out of di-
vers

To the Reader.

vers Mens Works,
which were either
not common, or out of
Print; and to get
some Godly Ministers
of mine acquaint-
ance, and so make
up this Book of
Crums, which I
therefore first so cal-
led, of the manner of
gathering. And be-
ing desirous to keep
the Title and Man-
ner.

To the Reader.

ner of the Book, be-
cause I see it is well
accepted of some good
People, now to thy
Forty One Edition,
I have obtained of a
good Friend the Re-
vising and Correc-
ting of it in many
things; who because
of the Title, hath
thought fit to place
in some of the first
Leafs, certain passa-

A 3 ges

To the Reader.

ges of Scriptures, by
which example thou
mayst gather more
for like occasion, and
for which it may
more justly bear the
name, The Crums
of Comfort; to
whom I have also
been beholden for
some special Pray-
ers and Thank(giv-
ings. And though
before I used the let-
ters

To the Reader.

ters of their names,
out of whose Writ-
ings I had collected
some of the Prayers;
yet now, least any of-
fence should be ta-
ken, I forbear wish-
ing thy true good
and comfort in this,
and all thou readest;
and rest.

Thine in the Lord,

M. S.

A 4 What



What Prayer is.

I.

PRay^r is a serious
lifting up of our
hearts unto God,
in the Name of Christ Je-
sus, either to crave need-
ful things, or to give
thanks for things received.

*What Time we are to take
for Prayer.*

² **W**E ought always
to pray, at least
three times a day: In the

A 5 Mo

Crumbs of

Morning, at Noon, and
at Nighr. There are 3 spe-
cial occasions for it: The
entrance upon the Days
calling, the receiving of
God's creatures for our
enabling; going to rest
after our Travel. Look
back in these, how God
hath preserved, provided,
and blessed thee, and they
are answerable occasions
of Praise. See *Dan.* 10.
and *Psal.* 55. 17. *Evening
and Morning, and at Noon
will I praise thee.* And in *Pf.*
119. 164. *Seven times a
day do I praise thee.* And more
the Apostle in *1 Thes.* 5.
17. saith, *Pray continually.*
And *v.* 18. *In all things
give thanks.* First,

Comfort.

*First, prepare thy Heart, then
seek the Lord by Prayer.*

3 **I**F thou art to come before a King, or great Person thou wilt consider for what thou comest to him and wilt order thy self, in *behaviour, apparel, and words*, and frame thy self to all dutiful *reverence, and seemliness*: much more order thy self to come before thy Glorious Creator, the King of Kings. Eccles. 5. 2. *Be not rash with thy mouth, and let not thy heart be hasty to utter a thing before God; for God is*

Crumbs of
in the Heavens, and thou
art on the Earth, therefore
let thy Words be few.

*What gesture we are to use
in Prayer.*

4 **T**HE most decent, and
fittest gesture is *knee-*
ling, & looking up to Hea-
ven, especially when we
desire mercy, grace or any
blessing to come down up-
on us; *groveling* or *looking*
downwards to the Earth,
when we remember and
bewail our sinful life past,
Acts 7. 60.

Yet any decent gesture
may be used, so it be come-
ly, & serve for our furthe-
rance in devotion, or better
ex-

Comfort.

expressing our affections.
It may be either in *going*,
standing, *sitting*, or *lying*.

We may pray also either
with voice, as *David* in his
Psalms; or in silence, as
Moses and *Nebemiah*.

Besides our most special
Devotions at set times; we
may use *Ejaculations* at all
times upon every occasion;
which are short desires of
the Heart lifted up to
God with great fervency.

*Why God sometimes doth
not hear our Prayers.*

First because sometime
we do ask we know
not what, *Mat. 20, 22. And*

Jesus

Crumbs of

*Iesus answered and said,
Ye ask ye know not what.
The Things may be good,
but not good or fit for us.*

*Another reason, becaule
we ask amiss, James 4. 2.
Ye ask and receive not, be-
cause ye ask amiss, that ye
may lay out the same upon
your pleasures.*

*God doth also defer
sometimes in that which
he will hear, and delays
granting what we desire,
that he may the more stir
up our Faith and Hope, and
make us more careful and
diligent to pray ; and that
we may the better esteem
his Gifts when we have
them, and shew our selves
more*

Comfort.

more thankful and obedient unto him for them.

In thy Preparation endeavour to be,

First, truly humbled in thy self in sight of thy sins, and sense of the occasions of thy Prayer.

2. To be raised upon some comfortable assurance of Gods mercy in pardoning thy sins, and of his favour to hear and help thee thro' Jesus Christ.

Jam. 4. 10. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will raise you up.

Crumbs of

A good means to help us in preparation, and to stir, us up to Prayer, would be,

First a pious consideration of the greatness, and goodness of our heavenly Father.

Secondly, a sense of our own unableness to assist us in our Prayers.

Thirdly, the present reading, or serious (tho' brief) meditating on some such part of God's Word, as either makes for our *Humiliation* or *Faith*, or may come nearer, or concern, the

Comfort.

the special occasions of our
Prayers.

Alms and *Fastings* are
good means to further our
private Devotions as well
as the more publick, as
we may see *Acts* 10.

Some special passages of
God's Word gathered up,
wherewith the poor Soul
that is not more able to
provide by his own skill,
or hath not always at
hand better store, may
pick some comfort, and
gather some strength.

8 **F**OR Humiliation in
sight of thine own
sin meditate on these and
such like places.

10
1 John

Crumbs of

I John 9. 1. God beareth
not sinners.

Prov. 1. 24. Because I
have called, and ye refused,
I have stretched out my hand,
and no man regarded.

Vers. 28. Then they shall
call upon me, but I will
not answer: They shall seek
me early, but they shall not
find me.

Isa. 1. 14, 15. Bring no
more oblations in vain.
When you shall stretch out
your hands, I will hide mine
eyes from you; and though
you make many prayers, I
will not bear; for your
hands are full of blood.

Comfort.

TO help the Repen-
tants Faith, by the
Mercy and Grace of God
in Christ, meditate on these
and such like places.

*1 John 2. 1. These things
write I unto you, that you
sin not, and if any man sin,
we have an advocate with
the Father, Jesus Christ
the Righteous, and he is
the propitiation for our sins.*

*Isa. 1. 16. Wash you,
make you clean, take away
the evil of your works from
before mine Eyes, cease to do
evil, learn to do well. Come
now let us reason, &c.*

1 Cor.

Crumbs of

1 Cor. 6. 11. Such were some of you, but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.

Rom. 8. 33, 34. Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's chosen; it is God that justifieth, who shall condemn?

Heb. 10. 22. Let us draw near with a true heart; in assurance of faith, our hearts being pure from an evil conscience.

1 Joh. 5. 14, 15. And this is that assurance that we have in him, that if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us:
And

Comfort.

And if we know that he heareth us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the Petitions which we have desired of him.

Mat. 11. 28. Come unto me all ye that are weary and laden, and I will ease you.

Psal. 50. 15. Call upon me in the day of trouble, so will I deliver thee, and thou shalt glorifie me.

Eccles. 7. 14. In the day of affliction consider.

Heb. 12. 20. He chasteneth us for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness.

Vers. 11. Now no chastening for the present seemeth

Crumbs of

eth to be joyous, but grievous, but afterwards it bringeth the quiet fruit of righteousness, unto them which are thereby exercised.

James 1. 4. Let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, lacking nothing.

Psal. 126. 5. They that sow in tears shall reap in joy.

Rom. 15. 4. Whatsoever was written aforetime, was written for our learning, that by patience and comfort of the Scripture, we might have hope.

Rom. 8. 26. The Spirit helpeth our infirmities: for we know not how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit
it

Comfort.

it self maketh request for us,
with sighs that cannot be
expressed.

Gal. 4. 6. God hath sent
forth the Spirit of his Son
into your hearts, which cry-
eth Abba, Father.

Holy Sentences containing
useful matter for Medi-
tation.

First, in the multitude
of the Sorrows of
my heart; thy Comforts
have refreshed my Soul.

2. Be not dismayed, ha-
ving nothing, be thou the
servant of God, and thou
hast more than the Lords
of the Earth in their great
possession.

3. If

Counsels of

3. If thou beest truly
godly, thou shalt never
fall into extreme misery.

4. Godliness brings con-
tentation, and being con-
tented, thy wealth exceeds
the Treasures of the
mighty.

5. Earthly Jewels are as
Chaff or Dust, for Riches
fly away with the wings of
the wind, but the Graces of
the Spirit remain for ever.

6. Wouldst thou have
thy Children thrive after
thee, and leave them a
good Estate? look not to
thy Chests, or Bags, or store
of Land which thou hast to
leave them; but be thou
Virtuous, Godly, and Re-
ligious.

Comfort.

ligious, and God will be the bringer up of thy Children, and prepare a Portion for them.

7. True blessedness doth not consist in great wealth but they which hunger after Righteousness shall be satisfied.

8. *Lazarus* went from Poverty to Riches, and *Dives* from Riches to Poverty.

9. Howl ye rich Men, for the Canker and rust of your Gold and Silver shall one day witness against you.

10. Godliness begins with Wants, Sorrows, Sadness, Stings of Conscience

B

science

Crumbs of

science, Losses, Poverty, Affliction of Soul, dejection of Spirit, Penitency for Sins ; These be the Harbingers of Heaven.

11. The rich hath pleasure, the poor pain, in this World : But the rich are tormented, and the Poor comforted in the world to come.

12. My Son, take heed to thy own heart. For thy heart is deceitful, and may well be called the great Impostor of the world.

13. The righteous find the way sooner to Heaven in Prison, than the Prince in his Palace.

14. Never fear what God

Comfort.

God doth against thee, but rather be afraid what thou dost against God.

15. Crosses to the Godly reclaim them, Crosses to the wicked consume them.

16. Persecutions in their own natures are curses, but if we put them to the best use, they are blessings : For through the Valley of Tears, we come to the Hill of Joy.

17. He that will not seek God in prosperity, the Lord will not be found of him in adversity ; for how can we look that G O D should save us, if we do not serve him.

18. Make not Religions

Crumbs of

the Cloak and Colour for deceit: For then thou wilt find thy self deceived, and God will disappoint thy presumption.

19. The Law of nature concurs with the Law of God. *Do to all as thou wouldest be dealt withal,* and then thou mayst expect a blessing upon all thou takest in hand.

20. As one Lamp lights many, and gives ten times more than it hath it self, and loseth none of its own light, so one godly man by his good examples, makes many more, always maintaining good to himself, and assisting others.

21. If

Comfort.

21. If thou be so sinful a sinner as not to think of sin and of thy Death, and Resurrection ; Remember thy own Conscience shall at last accuse thee : For as a man dies, and worms are bred in the dead carcass to consume it ; so the worm of thy Conscience shall come to testifie against thee at the last day.

22. When thou art ready to commit a sin, think God stands before thee to perswade thee from it, the Devil behind thee to drive thee to it ; thy own Conscience in the midst to terrifie thee after it : the Heaven above to witness

Crumbs of

against it, the earth below
to swallow thee for it,
therefore pray stedfastly
that thou mayst be delive-
red from it.

23. Consider the Flower
of the field, how it flouri-
sheth in the Spring, and
dieth in the Winter, and
yet riseth to its former
lustre ; so remember thy
life, thy death, and lastly
thy Resurrection.

24. Wheresoever thou
goest, ridest, & remainest,
if thou be alone, take one
of these Companions to
thee, either thy *Prayer-
Book*, or thy *Bible* ; good
thoughts , or charitable
works : for these four are
the

Comfort.

the fittest Companions
thou canst have to be with
thee in any occasion what-
soever.

Let thy Prayer be thus
Framed.

First *confess thy sins.*
Secondly, *Crave Faith.*
Thirdly, *Desire Repentance.*
Fourthly, *Perseverance in*
good.

Fifthly, *Directions for a*
goodly life.

Sixthly, *for the Church*
and Family.

Seventhly, *Thanksgiving*
for all benefits received.



*The Readers Prayer for the
right use of this or some
other help of Devotion.*

¶ **M**OST gracious
LORD, which
knowest the grievous sins
and manifold infirmities of
thy poor and unworthy
servant, give me access
unto thy Throne of Grace
by Christ Jesus, and grant
that whatsoever I ask of
thee may be to the Glory
of thy Name, the good of
thy People, comfort and
salvation of mine own
Soul. Also grant me so to
make use of this and other
helps

Meditations.

helps of Devotion, that in
and by them I may chiefly
seek for, and stir up the
grace of thy holy Spirit,
whereby I may in heart
cry *Abba Father*, to thy
Heavenly Majesty, that
so thou may look on me
as thy Child and pour on
me thy grace, whereby I
may be enabled to shew
my self thy Servant here,
and be accepted among
thy Children in Heaven,
through Christ Jesus, *A-*
men.



PRAYERS

AND

MEDITATIONS.

*A Morning Prayer at our
first rising from sleep.*

12 **O** Heavenly Fa-
ther, of all
Light, the true
Sun shine, so open my
heart with this the open-
ing of my eyes, that it
may still be so fixed on
thee, that this day, and
all

Meditations.

all the rest of my Life, I
may find comfort and
consolation in thee : And
grant most merciful Fa-
ther ; as thou hast been
my keeper this Night, for
which I 'give thee most
humble & hearty thanks,
so thou mayest be my Gui-
der and comfort this day,
and all the days of my life:
Grant this, good God and
merciful Father for Jesus
Christ his sake our Lord
and Saviour, we intreat
thee in that Prayer thou
hast taught us.

*Our Father which art in
Heaven, &c.*

Another



Another Morning Prayer.

13 **O** Most gracious
God and loving
Father, we heartily thank
thee, for all thy loving
kindnesses so abundantly
shewed upon us : For our
Election, Creation, Re-
demption, merciful Voca-
tion, Justification, Sancti-
fication, and continual
Preservation, and for the
same assured and most
comfortable Hope which
thou hast given us of our
Glorification in the World
to come. We praise thy
gracious Goodness for so
merci-

Meditations.

mercifully preserving us
this present night, and de-
livering us from all Dan-
gers both of Soul and Body,
for that thou hast given us
so sweet and comfortable
rest, & hast at this present
brought us to the begin-
ning of this day. And as
thou hast safely preserved
us unto this present hour,
from all dangers of this
Life; so we beseech thee,
to continue this thy fa-
vour towards us this day,
and the whole course of
our Life. Suffer us not by
vain allurements of this
world to be drawn away
into sin and wickedness:
assist us with thy Grace
and

Prayers and

and Holy Spirit, that we spend not our times vainly or idly, but that we may always be diligently exercised in the duties of our Calling, to the benefit of our Brethren, & discharge of our Conscience : Grant that in all our consultations, words and works, we may ever have Thee present before our eyes, thro' Jesus Christ our Lord *Amen.*

Our Father which art, &c.

*A Prayer to be said when
we wash in the Morning.*

14 **O** Lord God Heavenly Father, wash
away

Meditations.

away, I beseech thee, our
sins, cleanse us from our
iniquities ; purge our
hearts, and purifie us
wholly with thy Grace, &
as this watery Element
washeth off the filth from
our Bodies, so we beseech
thee, send down thy hea-
venly grace, to wash and
cleanse our Souls from sin;
and grant we may keep
them this day free from all
spots of uncleanness, and
all manner of Wickedness.
Grant this O gracious God,
we beseech thee, for Christ
Jesus sake, who therefore
came to take away the sins
of the world, hear & have
mercy upon us. *Amen.*



A Noon Prayer.

15 **O**LORD GOD
glorious in Majesty, strong in Power, mighty in Deliverance; I poor Worm, dust and ashes of the Earth, present my self before thee, most entirely thanking thee for preserving me the part of this day past; & now I entreat thee to preserve me the rest of it coming; and grant I may so carry my self in all my affairs and occasions, that I may find my self directed by thy Heavenly Wisdom, and thy Good Providence over me; and
to

Meditations.

to that purpose (O Lord)
let me have thy fear be-
fore mine eyes, thy help
and assistance to lead me
in the ways of Godliness,
Righteousness, and all true
Holiness. Keep me, O Lord,
from all sin & wickedness,
and prosper and preserve
me in all happiness the
rest of this day coming,
and thro' the whole course
of my life, I beseech thee,
for Christ Jesus sake, *Amen.*

A Prayer before Meat.

16 **O** Lord God bless &
sanctifie, we be-
seech thee, these thy good
Creatures which thou hast
pro.

Prayers and

provided for our nourishment, make them fit food for our bodies, that by the strength of them we may be quickned & made more apt and able to serve thee ; and grant, O Lord, that as we are careful to provide food for our Bodies, so we may much more labour for the Heavenly Bread, and be careful to gather of the *Crumbs of Comfort*, which fall from thy Table, that both our Souls and Bodies being fully satisfy'd, we may be made wholly fit to serve thee both now and ever, and walk acceptably before thee, till thou bring us to
the

Meditations.

the place where we shall never hunger and thirst more but live eternally, thro' Jesus Christ our Saviour. God forgive us our sins, increase our Faith, and give us grace to bring forth the fruits of Faith. *Amen.*

A Thanksgiving after meat.

17 **O** Lord we give thee hearty thanks for all thy blessings & benefits bestow'd upon us, and beseech thee, that as thou dost cloath our Bodies, and now hast also fed them with corporal Food, so thou wilt cover our Souls with thy heavenly Graces, and nourish them with the food

of

Prayers and

of thy holy Word; & grant
(O Lord God) that as thou
hast been mindful of us in
satisfying our hunger, and
supplying our wants, we
may be mindful of our poor
brethren in affording them
such comforts as our abili-
ties can perform. And that
we may still enjoy both
these temporal and spiri-
tual blessings, we pray thee
continue thy goodness to-
wards us; keep and defend
thy Church with every part
and member of the same:
Preserve Peace in this
Land, and help thy distres-
sed People, and such as
stand in need of thy Com-
forts, We beseech thee suc-
cour

Meditations.

cour all poor People, and
such as be in want. Reple-
nish the sad heart with joy,
release the Prisoners, re-
lieve the Fatherless, and
Widows, and send us also
such Grace, that the rich
may remember the Affli-
ction of *Ioseph*, and the
poor be contented with
the portion which thou
hast appointed, that we
may all hunger and thirst
after Righteousness, and be
satisfied according to thy
promise. Grant this (O
Lord God) for *Jesus Christs*
sake, to whom with thee
and thy sanctifying Spirit,
both now & evermore, be
all thanks, praise, and glo.

24 *ry. Amen.*

An

Prayers and

An Evening Prayer:

18 **O** MOST gracious
Lord God and
loving Father, we heartily
thank thee for all thy lo-
ving kindness so abun-
dantly shew'd towards us:
For our Election, Creation,
Redemption, merciful Vo-
cation, Justification, San-
ctification, continual Pre-
servation, and for that
same assured & most com-
fortable hope which thou
hast given us of our Glori-
fication in the World to
come. We praise thy glo-
rious goodness for so mer-
cifully preserving us this
pre-

Meditations.

present day, & delivering us from perils and dangers both of body and soul, for prospering and preserving us in health & prosperity, for keeping us from sudden death and all dangers, and giving us all things necessary for this present Life, as Health, Food, Apparel and all other convenient things needful. This gracious goodness of thine we beseech thee (O Lord) to continue towards us for ever. And here, O Lord God, we offer unto thee, our selves and ours, our Souls and Bodies; we recommend our Lives, our Means and all we have
unto

Prayers and

unto thy gracious preservation and protection, in assurance that that cannot perish which is committed unto thee. Keep us this Night in safety, and grant, good Lord, that our Bodies may sleep, and our Souls may watch for the coming of our Saviour, thy Son Jesus Christ; that so our Souls and Bodies may be more apt and able to serve thee in that estate and calling wherein thou hast thought good to place us. We confess & acknowledge (O God) that we are most miserable and wicked Sinners, as well by original corruption of our Nature,

Meditations.

Nature, as by the course of our evil and naughty life, we have, & do daily break and transgress thy most holy Laws and Commandments, both in thought, word and deed. By the means of this sin and corruption, we do continually deserve most just condemnation, and to be for ever cast out of thy presence : Yet such is thy goodness towards us, that thou wouldest not suffer us thus to perish in our sins, but hast sent thine own dear Son, Christ Jesus to take upon him whatsoever is due to us, and to reconcile and make us one with thee
C again

Prayers and

again. In him therefore,
& thro' him we come unto
thee, beseeching thee for
his sake, that we feeling the
grievousness of our sins,
and groaning under the
burthen of them, may find
the release & ease of them,
in that we thro' thy holy
Spirit, stedfastly believe
that Christ has borne the
burthen of them, even for
us. Grant O Lord, that we
being assured hereof in our
Consciencs, may through
thy holy Spirit be renewed
with more graces, and
hate, detest, and abhor all
manner of Sin and study
to live in all things accor-
ding to thy blessed Will,
during

Meditations.

during our whole Life :
grant this (O FATHER)
for Jesus Christ his sake.

Amen.

Lord increase our Faith.

*Our Father which art in
Heaven, &c.*

A Meditation at Midnight.

GRacious Lord, under
whose Protection
we rest; when we wake,
give us leave to think of
thee, let us in our dreams
draw near unto thee, do
thou prepare us for thee,
and let us never be taken
unprovided, but (with the
wise Virgins) ready prepa-

Prayers and

red whensoever thou shalt
call us, to go with thee ;
and so we recommend our
selves and Souls, and all
unto thee, through Jesus
Christ our Lord, *Amen.*

*A Morning Prayer for
Servants.*

20 **O** Most gracious,
and merciful,
glorious and everlasting
Father, which createdst
Light and Darkness :
which hast made all
things, and governeest and
guideest all things, I poor
wretched, miserable, and
wicked sinner, cast my
self

Meditations.

self down here before thy
Glorious Throne, beg-
ging, craving, and be-
seeching thee, even for
Christ Jesus sake, to look
down upon me, poor and
distressed wretch, with pi-
ty and compassion, to
pardon, forgive, and for-
get all my Sins, Actual
and Original, Ommissions,
and Commissions, or
whatsoever ; All (O Lord
God) that I have com-
mitted against thee in
thought, word, or deed :
O pardon them, I beseech
thee, bury them in the
depth of the Sea, O
Lord, open the Streams
of thy Mercy, pour down

Prayers and

the showers of thy Grace ;
quell the ill imaginations
and wicked thought of my
mind ; settle assured Faith
in my Conscience ; fill my
heart with thy Heavenly
Graces ; grant in all my
Service, I may be thy true
Servant, and so for thee,
may do true Service to my
Master and Mistriss, that
in all duty I may be plea-
sing, and acceptable to
them ; that with all sin-
gleness and sincerity of
heart, I may do all things,
and deal uprightly in all
that I take in hand, and
that at the last I may hear
with comfort that joyful
saying, *Well done thou good*
and

Meditations.

and faithful Servant, enter
into the rest and joy of thy
Heavenly Master. which
grant most gracious God,
for Jesus Christ his sake,
Amen.

Our Father which art in
Heaven, &c.



*An Evening Prayer for a
Servant.*

21 **O** Lord God; I give
thee most hearty
thanks for that thou hast
granted me grace to pass
this day quietly, in doing
my duty towards my Ma-
C 4 ster;

Prayers and

ster; grant I may pass this Night in quiet sleep, keep me (O Lord) set a watch over me, let thy good Angels guard me, and grant me such sweet and comfortable rest, that I may be refreshed in the Morning, and made fit to serve and obey thee; and also to serve and please my Master in all uprightness and diligence. Let me ever be employed in thy service, and grant that sleeping and waking I may be acceptable unto thee, thro' Jesus Christ, in whom I take my rest, and commend my self, this House, and all my good friends,
and

Meditations.

and all my People, now
and for ever, to thy gra-
cious and powerful preser-
vation & protection, *Amen.*

*Our Father which art in
Heaven, &c.*

A Prayer for Children.

22 **O** Eternal God, Crea-
tor and Governor
of all things, Father of our
Lord Jesus Christ, and in
him our gracious Father,
we thy poor Children, be-
seech thee to give us thy
Fatherly and Heavenly
blessing, to take us into thy
holy Government, so spread
the wings of thy prote-
ction.

Prayers and

tion over us: but first of all we do here confess, that we were conceived in sin, and brought forth in iniquity, and by reason of our original corruption, drawn from the loins of our Parents we are apt to every thing that is evil, averſe to any thing that is good. Being now in the beginning of our days, we are ready to begin to ſin, and now in our tender years are ſtrong enough to act wickedneſs: Here therefore do we proſtrate our ſelves before thee, with this Humble petition, that thou wouldeſt be pleaſed to mortifie the
cor-

Meditations.

corruption, and to suppress the rebellion of our proud Nature, to subdue our carnal lusts, to overrule our unruly wills, to bring into order our irregular affections, to season our hearts with thy Grace, and to plant in us such a fear of thy Name, that we may never depart from thee ; Regenerate us with thy holy Spirit, that we may be born again, and have our souls bathed in the Blood of thy Son, as well as our Bodies were washed with water in Baptism ; Baptize us into the death of Christ, that we may die unto sin ; make us
to

Prayers and

to feel the virtue of his Resurrection, that we may walk in newness of life. Catechize us out of thy holy Word, that it may be a light to our feet, and a Lanthorn to our Paths; and frame us to the respective entertainment of their wholesome Counsel who are able to instruct us, Preserve our Parents and Governours whom thou hast set over us, that they may bring us up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, and grant in us obedience unto them; and a care of shewing all due reverence, not only to them, but also to all our
Elders

Meditations.

Elders, and Betters that are before us : Make us circumspect in all our ways, conscionable in our walking, and very wary with what persons we converse : Work in us betimes, both a desire and endeavour to serve thee ; grant that we may remember thee our Creator in the days of our youth, that we may then set our selves to thy worship, when we are best able to perform it. Make us daily to die unto Sin, hourly to live unto Righteousness, and grow in grace like young plants, and never leave growing, till we come to be tall Cedars

Prayers and

dars in the Paradise of God ; even perfect men in Christ Jesus. In whose sweet Name we beg at thy hand these, and all other blessings which thou knowest to be needful for us ; not doubting but that for his sake, who commanded Children to be brought unto him, favourably embraced them, and graciously blessed them, thou also wilt receive, embrace, and bless us now coming unto thee. So be it, O Father, for the merits of that thy dear Son, who with thee and thy holy Spirit, be praised and magnified now and evermore, *Amen.*

Meditations.

*A Prayer for Sunday Mor-
ning.*

23 **O** MOST Gracious
Lord God, with a
trembling heart, and fear-
ful Conscience, and watery
plants, and bended knees, I
here poor dejected wretch
prostrate my self at thy
Throne of mercy ; O Lord,
I thank thee, that thou hast
brought this Week about
with me, helping me with
all things which were
needful for my body. Now
O Lord fit and prepare my
Soul and body for thy Sab-
bath. I confesse this Night
past, and all my life, thou
hast

Prayers and

hast been my refuge and
stay; be unto me (O Lord)
as thou hast been still my
Protector, my everlasting
Defence, my stay, my
Guide, my Hope, my Hold;
my strong Fortress, to
which I may always re-
sort: and as thou hast ap-
pointed this Sabbath Day
for man to employ himself
in thy service, so, O Lord,
grant my heart to be free,
and to rest from all world-
ly cares, and wholly to be
spent and settled upon
thee. Grant I may apply
my self to learn Wisdom
and Godliness. Sanctifie
my Soul, my Body, my
Mind, Thoughts, Deeds,
and

Meditations.

and Words ; Lord, fit and prepare my heart to hear, read, practice, and follow thy Word, and as thou hast appointed thy Preachers to preach and instruct us this day in thy Word, so open our hearts, and preserve our senses to Purity and Godliness, that we may be always ready prepared for thy Kingdom. Grant unto us, that neither this day, nor at any time, any evil may take hold of us, but that all good may be so rooted in our hearts, and minds, that our thoughts may always be of thee. And (Lord) we beseech thee to grant
us

Prayers and

us grace so to read and hearken to thy Word that we may reap profit hereby in all things, Grant thy good Angels to guard us, and to be about us, that Satan may not hinder any good work in us, and grant that we may spend this whole day in the works of Sanctification, in publick and private Praise and Thanksgiving, to thy glory, and our comfort and souls health, thro' Christ our Mediator and Redeemer, and by the help of the holy Spirit our Sanctifier, *Amen.*

Our Father which art in Heaven, &c.

A

Meditations.

A Prayer for Sunday night.

24 **P**Repare, O Lord, our
hearts to Prayer,
O Lord, open our mouths,
and let our lips shew forth
thy praise. Settle our affect-
ions upon thee, grant unto us
(or me) our requests. Bend
and prepare us for thy service,
Lord we beseech thee.

O Our Everlasting and
Loving Father, mer-
ciful good God, Creator,
Guider, Defendor, Protect-
or, Governour, and Ma-
ker of all things, which
createdst the light and
darkness, who preparedst
the

Prayers and /

the Seas, and foundedst
the dry Land; who hast
made man, and gavest him
Wit, Senses, and Understan-
ding, to be a second means
to help himself by thee:
Look down we beseech
thee, upon all miserable
distressed Sinners, more e-
specially upon us, & grant
unto us pardon for all our
Sins, Actual and Original,
Sins of Omission or Com-
mission, Imagination, or a-
ny way whatsoever. O
Lord pardon them, quit &
free us from all punish-
ment; let them not be
horror unto our Consci-
ence, nor terror to our
Souls, but wash and
cleanse

Meditations.

cleanse us ; O Lord, free
and quit them from us, let
them not come as a Judge
to condemn us, nor choose
our sins as a Jury to over-
throw us ; but (O Lord)
bury them, cast them be-
hind thee, forget and for-
give them ; and we beseech
thee call us not to an ac-
count for them. Let not
mischief fall upon us nor
our Children, we entreat
thee ; let not misery come
near unto us, but bless &
keep us, we beseech thee
now and for ever. Lord
we beseech thee to bless
the Word which we have
heard preached unto us
this day, and also that
which

Prayers and

which we have read, bless
and sanctifie the same unto
us, Lord, we beg of thee:
Bless likewise thy whole
Church distressed, disper-
sed, and despised; help and
relieve it in due time, and
comfort all that be in dan-
ger: build it up where it is
new begun, as namely in
Virginia, New-England,
Summer Islands, the East
and West Indies, Lord bless
the means provided for
the furtherance of the
same and we desire thee
to call home the *Indians* in
those parts the *Atheists,*
Heriticks and *Papists* of this
Land, and elsewhere, and
all other that they may
see

Meditations.

see their errors and blindness : the wilful blinded *Jews*, good Lord, call them to fulfil the number of thy Church O merciful Father, we intreat thee to relieve & release all poor Prisoners & Captives wheresoever ; also all that are troubl'd in mind, those whose Consciences are laden with grief for their sins, Lord ease & receive them : poor Idiots foolish or frantick persons, restore their senses, wits & understanding ; and grant as thou hast left them to be as it were Examples unto us, to fear and tremble at thy Judgment on them, so grant us (Lord) to have the
more

Prayers and

more care to fear & obey thee, likewise comfort all fatherless *Children*, *Widows*, or poor oppressed *Servants* or *Captives*, and Prisoners oppressed by *Slavery*, *Tyranny*, or *Misery*; put a period and end unto their griefs, or else (Lord) give them hearts to bear them patiently, and now, O Lord, we intreat thee to receive us into thy protection, keep us, O Lord, from sudden *Death*, *Fire*, and *Thieves*, *Storms*, *Tempests*, and all *Affrightments*, succour and relieve us in all needs and dangers, and send thy good Angel to guard us. Now, O Lord, we return
with

Meditations.

with all thanks and praise
unto thee, and thy holy
Name for all thy blessings
unto this present ; so con-
tinue, we beseech thee, thy
love unto us. We have de-
served thy curse, thou in-
stead thereof hast given us
thy blessing, so continually
O Lord, pour down thy
blessings, and so bless us
with heavenly blessings,
that we may feel and find
thy true comforts. Also
bless us with earthly bles-
sings, that we may be help-
ful to others that feel
want or need. Grant these
and all good things, even
for Christ's sake, our Lord
and Saviour, *Amen.*

D

A

Prayers and

more care to fear & obey thee, likewise comfort all fatherless *Children, Widows,* or poor oppressed *Servants* or *Captives,* and Prisoners oppressed by *Slavery, Tyranny,* or *Misery*; put a period and end unto their griefs, or else (Lord) give them hearts to bear them patiently, and now, O Lord, we intreat thee to receive us into thy protection, keep us, O Lord, from sudden *Death, Fire, and Thieves, Storms, Tempests,* and all *Affrightments,* succour and relieve us in all needs and dangers, and send thy good Angel to guard us. Now, O Lord, we return
with

Meditations.

with all thanks and praise unto thee, and thy holy Name for all thy blessings unto this present ; so continue, we beseech thee, thy love unto us. We have deserved thy curse, thou instead thereof hast given us thy blessing, so continually O Lord, pour down thy blessings, and so bless us with heavenly blessings, that we may feel and find thy true comforts. Also bless us with earthly blessings, that we may be helpful to others that feel want or need. Grant these and all good things, even for Christ's sake, our Lord and Saviour, *Amen.*

D

A

Prayers and

A Soliloquy for Sunday at
midnight.

25 **L**ORD, how long shall
it be before I cele-
brate the Sabbath of a true
rest in thee? The world seeks
to destroy me, the Devil to
devour me, the flesh to de-
ceive me; come to my aid,
Lord, and I shall be in safe-
ty. Every one desires joy and
comfort. Lord, let me find
thee my only joy and com-
fort. I come and yield my
soul into thy hands, thou art
my Father, dispose of me, as
it pleaseth thee. Come Lord
Jesus, for I am come to
thee; stay with me, I am
willing

Meditations.

*willing to abide with thee, aid,
support, and remain with me
this night, and for ever, rest
with my thoughts, Amen.*

A Morning Prayer for Sun- day.

26 **O** LORD GOD,
which madeſt the
Heavens, the Earth, the Sea,
Man, Fiſh, Birds, & Beaſts,
and all things: we poor di-
ſtreſſed Sinners, full of ſin
and iniquity, preſume to
bring unto thee our woun-
ded ſouls for to cure, our
ſins and wickedneſs have
wounded us, our tranſgreſ-
ſions have taken hold upon

Prayers and

us, we are ever laden with filth, we daily provoke thy anger, week after week, day after day, hour after hour, and every minute we transgress by thought word, or deed, we promise amendment, but daily run on in our course of wickedness; we have no mind of Heavenly things, but the Devil, the World, and the Flesh, haunt us in all our thoughts, at all times, nay, in our very Prayers they betray us, and carry our mind another way, yet Lord, as thou hast spared us this week past, and all the rest of our lives, so we beseech thee to spare us

Meditations.

us this week coming, and
all the time we have to
live. And as we now begin
the week, so grant (good
God) we may begin with
new spiritual Graces, to
fear, serve, and obey thee
all the days of our life.
Keep us, O Lord, from
sudden death, temptation,
tribulation, persecution
and affliction; prosper our
Works, our Labours, our
Pains; be with us at the
beginning, proceeding, and
ending in our Vocation and
Calling; grant we may
deal uprightly, and let the
carriage of our Affairs be
so pleasing unto thee, that
they may draw down

Prayers and

thy blessings upon us;
keep us we pray thee, this
week following, thriving
in our Estates, and reli-
gious in our Carriage,
always meditating of
good, for thy glory, the
Church and the Common-
wealth, so that whatsoever
we lay our hands unto,
thou wilt bend our hearts
to the same, so it be to thy
praise and glory. Receive
us, merciful Father, into
thy protection, and grant
us these Graces, and all
Comforts that are, may,
or can be for our furthe-
rance to Salvation, even
for thy only Sons sake,
Christ Jesus our Lord: to
whom

Meditations.

whom with thee and thy
Holy Spirit, be all praise,
Honour and Glory; now
and for ever. *Amen.*

Our Father, &c.

*An Evening Prayer for
Monday.*

27 **O** LORD, which art
our God, we in-
treat thee upon the ben-
ded knees of our bodies, to
accept this our Evening
Sacrifice of Thanksgiving
and Praise. We thank thee,
O Lord God, for keeping
us this day past, and all the
rest of our lives, for giving
us Food, Raiment Health,

Prayers and

and prosperity, for keeping us now and ever from sudden death, & all other miseries ; so we beseech thee, O Lord God, to keep us this night coming, in peace and quietness, both in body and goods: grant good God, unto us quiet rest and sleep : keep us from all evil whatsoever, we humbly intreat thee, and set thy good Angels as a guard and watch over us, that we may enjoy the sweet rest and comfort of this night, that we may be the better able to go on in thy service, and grant that when we wake, we may wake with the joy of thy
holy

Meditations.

holy Spirit, and to be settled in the true assurance of thy gracious protection, that we may daily find and feel some comforts of thy Heavenly graces in our hearts with joy and comfort. Grant this, dear Father, for Christ Jesus sake, our Lord and Saviour, *Amen.*

Our Father which art, &c.

*A Morning - Prayer for
Tuesday.*

28 **W**E intreat thee,
most merciful
Father, to accept our
Prayers and Supplications
D S tions

Prayers and

tions which we shall offer before thy Divine Majesty, we confess and acknowledge, thou mightest have poured down justly thy Judgments and Indignation upon us, In justice thou mightest have taken us this night past in our sleep, and plunged us suddenly into Hell and perpetual destruction: Yet in mercy thou hast spared us. O Lord, we heartily thank thee, that of thy great bounty thou hast kept us safe this Night, and brought us to the beginning of this Day; now spare us, good Lord, spare us, we beseech thee,

Meditations.

thee, and as thou hast ever
been our defence, so we
beseech thee defend and
protect us hereafter, that
we may become thy faith-
ful servants and followers.
Bless we beseech thee, this
day and for ever, all our
studies, labours & travels;
further our endeavours;
help us in our Trading;
help us in our Necessities,
and guide us in our ways,
aid us in all our works:
preserve us from all sin and
wickedness, and deliver us
in all temptations; bless,
we beseech thee, our
whole Houshold, and all
about us, be merciful to
our Friends and Foes, lessen
the

Prayers and

the number of our Foes,
increase the number of our
Friends, bless our Neigh-
bours, grant unity, con-
cord and love betwixt
them and us, keep them
and us, and all about us,
now and for ever. Grant
us, good Lord, full pardon
of our sins, and true and
lively hope in thy mercies,
through Christ our Saviour,
Amen.

*Our Father which art in
Heaven, &c.*

*An Evening Prayer for
Tuesday.*

29 **H**eavenly God, and
merciful Father,
assist

Meditations.

assist us in our Prayers, and grant us our requests, we humbly intreat thee. Look down, O Lord, look down, we beseech thee and grant our Requests. We thank thee that thou hast kept and preserved us this day, and all the rest of our lives to this present, in health and prosperity, and given good success to our travels and studies; Merciful Father, we intreat thee, that as thou hast kept us this day past, so we beseech thee to keep us this night coming, and as thou hast appointed times and seasons, as to be the third night in this week, so we beseech

Prayers and

beseech thee, set a second watch over our Souls and Bodies, that we commit no sin in thought nor deed: grant us quiet sleep, comfortable rest; keep and defend us from sudden death, and fearful affrightments, danger of fire or tempests, disturbance by Thieves, or any other danger whatsoever: and grant, as we now lie down to rest in bed, so we may remember the rest of our bodies in the grave, till it please thee to raise us. Bless this Night, and for ever, all that be forced to travel by Land or Water, all poor Soldiers that keep Watch
and

Meditations.

and Ward, and we beseech thee so to watch and wake with them and us, that we may rise in the morning to give praise and thanks unto thee, through Christ Jesus our Lord and Saviour, Amen.

Our Father which art in Heaven, &c.

*A Morning Prayer for
Wednesday.*

30 **O** Eternal, merciful, and loving Father, I intreat thee to look down upon me wicked and wretched sinner, and to grant my request, O Lord,

Prayers and

I give thee humble and hearty thanks, for keeping me this night past, & that thou hast safely brought me to the beginning of this day: defend me, O Lord, in the same: and grant I may spend this day to thy glory, my comfort, and good example of all that are about me. O Lord, I beseech thee, be unto me a Guide and Protector over my ways, works, and words, that I shall walk, do, or speak this day, and all the rest of my life. Grant I may wholly dedicate my self unto thee, and strive to live more godly and purely; and always study

Meditations.

study to fear, serve, and obey thee, and to set forth thy praise, that I may find thy favour, mercy, and goodness, shewred and poured upon me, both now and for ever hereafter : grant this dear God, and merciful Father, as we beg in that Prayer which thou hast taught us, saying,

Our Father which art, &c.

*An Evening Prayer for
Wednesday.*

31 **O** MOST gracious God and heavenly Father, renew, I beseech thee, my strength to pray-
er.

Prayers and

er. As the Eagle reneweth his age, so let me renew in Grace. O Lord, I beseech thee, accept this Evening Prayer for all thy mercies. I have sinned (O Lord) against thee, in thought, word and deed, this day, & all the days of my life I have done wickedly, in so much that I am ashamed to confess my sins, Yet thou hast spared me this day, & all my life past. O Lord, I beseech thee, if I have done any thing this day, or at any other time heretofore, that hath been displeasing unto thee, pardon it I entreat thee, forgive it I beseech thee, forgive

Meditations.

I desire thee, and finally
quit and free me from the
punishment of the same ;
O Lord, bless and keep me
this Night, and this House
where I am, and each of us
from all bodily and ghostly
Enemies, and from all ill
Dreams, and Fantasies, and
suggestions of the Devil,
from all storms and tem-
pests, from fire, sudden
death, and danger, good
Lord deliver us all; and
grant we may rise in the
Morning to praise thee,
through Jesus Christ our
Lord, *Amen.*

*Our Father which art in
Heaven, &c.*

Prayers and



*A Prayer at any time in the
night, in the time of dan-
ger or fear.*

32 **O** LORD what shall
I do? Whither
shall I flie? Where shall I
be safe, but with thee?
Take me, receive me, keep
and defend me now and
for ever. O Lord, give me
quiet rest and sleep, and
protect me, and grant me,
and all in this house, com-
fort in thee, this night, and
for evermore. *Amen.*

Meditations.

*A Morning Prayer for
Thursday.*

33 **O** Heavenly Father
and good GOD,
raise and rouse up my dull
Senses. As the Morning
Lark flyeth up with sweet
singing, still looking up-
wards towards thee : So,
O Lord, grant my heart,
eyes and affections, and all
may be lift up unto thee :
O Lord, it is thy Mercy
that hath kept me this
night past, and brought me
to the beginning of this
day, I give thee hearty
thanks for the same : So,
O

Prayers and

O Lord, guide and govern
me this day, that I may
walk upright in all my
dealings, be true and just
in all my doings ; and give
me the Sanctification of
thy Holy Spirit to find and
feel thy help in the use of
prosperity and health, and
happiness, that shall tend
to the setting forth of thy
praise and glory, that I
may so enjoy the benefits
of this day, that I may
find and feel thy comfort,
through Jesus Christ our
only Lord and Saviour,
Amen.

An

Meditations.

*An Evening Prayer for
Thursday.*

34 **O** Most Omnipotent
God, and Heavenly
Father, most glorious Crea-
tor ; I intreat thee to grant
my request, & accept this
my Evening Sacrifice of
Prayer and Thanksgiving,
I beseech thee be a power-
ful Protector and Defender
of me this night : & as thou
hast been (O Lord) my De-
fender all this Week past,
so I beseech thee, be a de-
fender of me all the part
that is to come. Keep me
in thy protection, shield
me

Prayers and

me from all dangers, defend me from sudden death; and send I pray thee, thy good Spirit to watch over me this night, and for ever hereafter. I thank thee for blessing me this day past, and I intreat thee, good God, so to continue thy blessings, and to increase them more and more towards me, that I may feel & find that thou, O Lord, art my everlasting shield and succour. And, heavenly Father, let me feel those joys that be a comfort unto my Soul, & I beseech thee grant my very dreams may be of heaven, & heavenly Joys, and
grant

Meditations.

grant I may at least enjoy
such joy and comfort in
thee, that I may rest in thy
Kingdom, for ever and e-
ver. *Amen.*

*Our Father which art in
Heaven, &c.*



*A Prayer for Friday
Morning.*

35 **U**Nto thee, O
Lord, I come
with a broken & contrite
heart, sorrowing for my
sins, seeking to find com-
fort at thy hands: O thou
knowest my grief, my sor-
row and care. O I feel and
find thy Comforts, Lord,
E

Prayers and

I thank thee that thou hast
kept me the night past, &
that thou hast safely
brought me to see the glit-
tering light. O Lord stir
me up that I may find
some comfort, preserve &
keep me, that I may feel
some joy in my soul and
body, this day and for e-
ver: and as the Church ob-
serves this day a Fast, so
prepare thou me, O Lord,
in Soul and Body, that I
may fast from all sin and
wickedness, and be strong
against the World, the
flesh, and the devil, and all
temptations, that I fall
not into sin or transgressi-
on: but grant that I may
spend

Meditations.

spend this day, with all the days of my life, in all holy conversation, to thy glory and good example of all Men: Grant this O Father, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Our Father which art in Heaven, &c.

A Prayer for Friday Night.

46 **M**ERCIFUL LORD GOD, which halt let me pass this day in health and prosperity, I intreat thee grant that this Night I may take my rest in quietness & peace;

Prayers and

and although thou hast
now taken away the day-
light, yet I intreat thee not
to take away the spiritual
light of thy Grace: infuse
into me (O Lord) the Spirit
of Comfort: and although
our Sleep be as Death, and
the Bed as the Grave, yet
suffer us not to perish sud-
denly or unprepared: but
watch over us, good Fa-
ther, and guide and guard
us now and for evermore.
Let not affrightments fall
upon us, keep us from
Fire, Storms, Tempests,
Thieves, sudden death and
danger: and be unto us
now and for ever, a graci-
ous Protector, a Defender,
and

Meditations.

and Director. Let thy good Angels, O Lord, pitch their Tents about us, and our Houses: Remember thy Church, and every member thereof, to preserve and keep it, especially the poor protestants afflicted for the Truth in *Germany, France, and Spain,* and elsewhere; all that are persecuted for the Gospel; all in tribulation, or temptation, or misery: Put an end and period to their griefs, and send comfort unto them; and LORD, receive them and us, this night and ever into thy gracious protection, through the Mediation of

Prayers and

Christ Jesus: in whose
Name we conclude, saying,
Our Father which art, &c.

*A Trance or Soliloquy at
Midnight.*

37 **M**erciful Lord, let
me not die before
I live. My eyes have taken
pleasure in folly, my heart
in sin, now I am sorry for
it; I esteem my self un-
worthy to call thee Fa-
ther; yet Lord vouchsafe
to account me still as thy
Child, that sleeping or wa-
king I may be always
thine, now and ever. *A-*
men.

A

Meditations.

*A Prayer for Saturday
Morning.*

38 **S**ANCTIFIE (O LORD)
this day unto us, and
to all about us. Hear us,
dear Father, and grant our
requests now and for ever.
O LORD, we give thee
thanks that thou hast kept
us this Night, and to this
present, and brought us to
the last day of this Week :
Grant we may spend this
day soberly , quietly ,
and religiously from our
hearts : bring us to thy
righteous Will in all things
that it may be for thy Glo-
ry, and our joy and com-

Prayers and

fort. Root out all unjust, covetous, malicious, and lustful thoughts out of our minds. Keep us, O Lord, from all wickedness, and from all sin, and be a Guide unto us in all our ways, and a strength in all our necessary occasions; and as thou hast brought us to this last day of the week, so we intreat thee to bring an end of sin unto us, and cloath us with the Riches of thy Righteousness. O God, we intreat thee to grant this for our blessed Mediators sake, Christ Jesus our Lord, *Amen.*

A

Meditations.



*A Prayer for Saturday
Night.*

39 **M**erciful and Hea-
venly Father,
look upon me wretched
Sinner, in mercy, before I
come to give account for
all my sins committed this
Week, this Day, and all my
life past. I have justly deser-
ved Hell, Death, & Damna-
tion, every way, every
day, and every hour this
Week, and all my life past.
Yet like a merciful GOD,
thou hast defended me, O
LORD. As this Week is
now at an end, so let my
sins end, and call me not

Prayers and

to an exact account (*here
make confession of all thy sins
with sorrow, which thou hast
committed thee whole week
past*) O Lord I confess all, I
yield my self worthy of
Death, yet Lord spare
me, spare me, have
mercy upon me, par-
don me, and grant that I
may have this Night quiet
rest, that I may be the bet-
ter able to serve thee to-
morrow. Be this Night my
defence, my guide, my
strong hold, my Fortrefs,
and sole Comfort. And
grant that I may with a
quiet Conscience lie down
to take my rest in peace
and quietness; let thy
good

Meditations.

good Angels attend on me,
sleeping or waking, let no
affrightments trouble me,
but in the midst of dark-
ness enlighten me with
thy glory; and pardon
and forget, and forgive all
my sins past, Grant this
now and for ever, I be-
seech thee, in that Prayer
which thy Son hath taught
me, saying,

*Our Father which art in
Heaven, &c.*



*A Prayer before a
Sermon.*

40 **O** Grant, most graci-
ous Father, that
our thoughts may not be
car-

Prayers and

carried away with any
vain illusions, or bad ima-
ginations; grant that we
be not overcome with
sleep or drowsiness, but
quicken (O L O R D) we
beseech thee, our Senses;
open, we intreat thee,
our Ears; apply our hearts
to hear, and understand,
and follow thy heavenly
Word. Grant this good
Father, for thy only Son's
sake, Christ Jesus our Sa-
viour. *Amen.*

*A Prayer to be said after
Sermon.*

41 **L** Ord God we intreat
thee that the Word
which

Meditations.

which we have heard preached at this time to us, be deeply settled in our hearts that we by it may so learn to live, that we may please thee, and daily endeavour to fulfil thy will, and spend the rest of our lives in thy true service, and obedience of thee in all things, to the honour of thy Glory, and our Souls true Comfort, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

*A Prayer to be said before
the receiving of the Communion.*

42 **O** Father of mercy,
and GOD of all
Consolation, seeing all
crea-

Prayers and

creatures do acknowledge
& confess thee to be their
Governour and Lord ; it
becometh us, the work-
manship of thy own hands,
much more to reverence
and magnifie thy great
Majesty, for that thou hast
created us to thy own I-
mage and Similitude ; but
chiefly in that thou hast de-
livered us from that ever-
lasting death and damna-
tion, to which Satan subje-
cted all mankind by the
reason of sin, from the bon-
dage whereof, neither Men
nor Angels were able to
set us free. But thou, O
Lord, rich in mercy, and
infinite goodness, hast pro-
vided

Meditations.

vided our Redemption to consist in thine only and well beloved Son, whom of very love thou didst give to be made Man like unto us in all things (sin only excepted) that in his body he might receive the punishment of our Transgressions by his death, to make satisfaction to thy Justice, by his stripes & wounds, that we that were the Sinners indeed, should be healed and free, & by his humiliation that we might be glorified & exalted, and that by his Resurrection, Death and Hell should be vanquished, to bring us to life everlasting, and Joys eternal, from which

Prayers and

which the whole off-spring
of *Adam* was justly exiled,
O Lord, we acknowledge
that no creature is able to
comprehend the length,
breadth, deepness, and
height of that most excel-
lent Love. For, thou didst
shew thy mercy, when
none was deserved ; thou
gavest Life, when Death
had got the Victory ; thou
received'st us into Grace,
when we rebelled against
thy Majesty ; and when we
were all spotted & defiled
with the filth of unrighte-
ousness, thou didst cleanse
and purifie us with the
blood of Jesus Christ ; and
although through the per-
verse

Meditations.

verse blindness and dulness
of our corrupt nature, we
neither do, nor can suffi-
ciently weigh, or consider
these thy most ample be-
nefits, yet nevertheless (as
Jesus Christ our Lord hath
instituted & commanded)
we present our selves to
this thy Table; to manifest
and witness to the whole
world, that by him alone
we have received Liberty
and Life, that by him alone
thou dost acknowledge us
to be thy Children and
Heirs; that by him alone
we have entrance to the
Throne of Grace; that by
him alone we are admit-
ted to sit at thy Heavenly
Table,

Prayers and

which the whole off-spring
of *Adam* was justly exiled,
O Lord, we acknowledge
that no creature is able to
comprehend the length,
breadth, deepness, and
height of that most excel-
lent Love. For, thou didst
shew thy mercy, when
none was deserved ; thou
gavest Life, when Death
had got the Victory ; thou
received'st us into Grace,
when we rebelled against
thy Majesty ; and when we
were all spotted & defiled
with the filth of unrighte-
ousness, thou didst cleanse
and purifie us with the
blood of Jesus Christ ; and
although through the per-
verse

Meditations.

verse blindness and dulness of our corrupt nature, we neither do, nor can sufficiently weigh, or consider these thy most ample benefits, yet nevertheless (as Jesus Christ our Lord hath instituted & commanded) we present our selves to this thy Table; to manifest and witness to the whole world, that by him alone we have received Liberty and Life, that by him alone thou dost acknowledge us to be thy Children and Heirs; that by him alone we have entrance to the Throne of Grace; that by him alone we are admitted to sit at thy Heavenly Table,

Prayers and

Table, and also receive spiritual strength both to do good, and to avoid all evil; that by him alone our Souls shall be raised from sin, and our Bodies from death; and by him alone we receive both grace and mercy here, and assurance of Glory for ever. Wherefore to him alone, with thee, O most gracious and loving Father, and the blessed Spirit, one truly glorious God, be all Praise and Thanks, now and ever.

Amen.

Meditations.

*A Prayer and Thanksgiving
after the receiving of the
holy Communion.*

43 **M**OST merciful
Father, we ren-
der unto thee all Thanks
Praise, Honour and Glory,
for that it hath pleased
thee of thy great mercy to
grant unto us miserable
Sinners so excellent bene-
fits and priviledges, as to
be received into the fel-
lowship and company of
thy dear Son Jesus Christ
our Lord ; yea, by his
means we are thy adopted
Children, and he is made
our elder Brother. Yea,
O

Prayers and

O LORD, we come nearer than so: He is our Head, and we are the Members of that Mystical Body. And all this proceeds from thy gracious goodness, and compassion. For thou hast delivered him to death to give us life: Thou hast made him a Sacrifice for the necessary food & nourishment of our souls; thou gavest way to the piercing of his Sides, from whence issued Water and Blood, that we might know how we came cleansed from our sins, and redeemed from Damnation. Yea (O LORD GOD) thou hast presented us in this Sacrament

Meditations.

ment the whole Tragedy of his Passion, that we out of his Sorrows might recover Joys, out of his Groans might be comforted; out of his Sighs and Tears might have ours put into his Bottle; and out of his Death, be presented to life everlasting: we beseech thee then, O heavenly Father, to grant us this request, that thou never suffer us to become so unkind as to forget such worthy benefits, but rather make a sure impression of them in our hearts for ever, and let the virtue and strength of his Spirit ever be found in us, by which we may be
con-

Prayers and

confirmed and established
so, that we may not only
prevail against all our spi-
ritual Enemies, but conti-
nue also in confessing of
thy goodness; and refor-
mation of our Lives, and
performance of all good
duties, to the glory of thy
Name, through the same
Christ Jesus our Lord; to
whom with thee, O Fa-
ther, and thy holy Spirit,
be all Glory and Praise,
now and ever. *Amen.*

Meditations.

*A Prayer to be said before
Chatechising.*

44 **W**E most heartily
thank thee, most
merciful Father, for all thy
Blessings bestowed upon
us, from the beginning
of the World unto this
present time; for our Ele-
ction, Creation, Redemp-
tion, merciful Vocation,
Justification, Sanctificati-
on, continual preservation,
and for that same assured,
and most comfortable
Hope that thou hast given
us of our Glorification in
the World to come. And
we beseech thee to direct
us

Prayers and

us, that considering thy mercies we may acknowledge and confess our sins, which should provoke thee rather to curse than to bless us, to confound us rather than to preserve us. We have sinned against thee both in thought, in word and deed: Grant that we seeing the horror of our sins, and the fierceness of thy wrath, may without hypocrisie or dissimulation be earnestly sorry and heartily repent for our former wickedness; howbeit in such sort, as that we despair not, but that in bitterness of our grief we may have comfort, by Faith

Meditations.

in thy Son Christ, that
our offences are pardon-
ed. Grant (O Lord) that
we being assured hereof in
our Consciences, may
through the holy Spirit, be
renewed in the inner-
man, to hate, detest, and
abhor sin, and to study to
live according to thy blef-
sed Will, during our whole
life. And as now, through
thy goodness, we are here
assembled together, so we
beseech thee to direct us,
that at this present, both
our words, hearts, and all
our behaviours may be in
such sort ordered, as that
we may truly utter, and
reverently receive the

F

Prin-

Prayers and

Principles of thy holy and heavenly Word, to the strengthening of our Faith, to the comfort of our Consciences, to the amendment of our sinful and lewd lives, and to the glory of thy most holy Name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *So be it.*

*A Prayer to be used after
Catechizing.*

45 **W**E heartily thank thee, O most merciful Father, for that thou hast bestowed the inestimable treasure of thy Holy and Heavenly Word upon us most vile and sinful

Meditations.

ful wretcher. And seeing it is not in him that planteth, nor in him that watereth, but in thy merciful hand to mortifie our sinful lusts, and to create new hearts in us; we beseech thee so to order and direct us, that we prove not like the green Fig-tree, flourishing without fruit, or be of the number of those Hypocrites: which with tongue can say Lord, Lord, in thy Name we Prophe- sie, cast out Devils, and do many great works, and yet are condemned for wicked, because their hearts are not aright, nor like to them which are

Prayers and

swept and garnished but yet empty, whereinto the unclean Spirit returns with seven worse than himself, and so our end be worse than our beginning; but govern us with thy Holy Spirit, that in heart we may love and seek thee, & in body and soul obey and serve thee, in righteousness and true holiness all the days of our life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

As we pray for our selves so we beseech thee, to look with favour upon the whole Church, increase the number of thy Children, grant thy Gospel a free pas-

Meditations.

passage, comfort the comfortless, raise up them that are fallen, and strengthen them that stand, that they fall not: Have mercy upon this Realm, long continue thy blessing of peace and quietness towards us, and remove far from us all lets & hindrances of the same. Govern the Hearts and the Swords of all Magistrates that they may not lift up themselves in vain glory, to please themselves, but that they may apply the authority which thou hast given them, to the advancement of thy Glory, for the comfort of thy Children, and the terror

Prayers and

of thine Enemies. And seeing the continuance of our peace in these days, next under thee, lieth in the preservation of our most gracious Queen; bless us with Her, and bless Her with all gifts fit for so high a calling: and whosoever shall attempt, devise or conspire ought against Her Majesties Person, Crown, Dignity, and Royal Estate, we beseech thee in mercy either to convert them speedily, or in Judgment to confound them, that we may under Her lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty: Counsel the Counsellors, order

Meditations.

order the Nobles, direct the Magistrates, instruct the Ministers, guide and govern the whole body of this Common-wealth, that we may joyn together in humbleness of heart, and unity of mind, to seek the glory of thy Name, the increase of thy Kingdom, the establishing of thy Truth, the rooting out of sin, the maintenance of Virtue, & the long continuance of the prosperous estate of this Common wealth: Have mercy upon them that be in affliction in body or in mind, especially such as suffer for the testimony of a good conscience ; as-

Prayers and

swage their sorrows, mitigate their miseries speedily, if it be thy will, or else arm them with patience to abide such trial, as thou shalt lay upon them. Grant these things for thy Son's sake, Jesus Christ our Saviour, in whose Name we pray for the same, and all other Graces, which thou knowest needful, either for us or the whole Church, in the same Prayer which he himself hath taught us in his Holy Word, saying.

Our Father which art in Heaven, &c.

A

Meditations.



*A most effectual Prayer
against the Plague in the
time of Danger.*

46 **O** Lord God, great
JEHOVAH, thou
merciful Creator of Man,
and founder of Heaven &
Earth, we wretched mise-
rable and dejected sinners
here present our selves be-
fore thy Heavenly Throne
intreating thee to look
down upon us, poor distressed
offenders. We confess we
are unworthy of the name
of thy Children, we have
despised thy Love, and for-

Prayers and

faken thy ways, made
flight of thy Words, and re-
fused thy Chastisements,
without thinking what we
deserve : we have not fea-
red thy Judgments, nor
dreaded thy threatnings,
we have not sought thy
favour nor listened after
thy mercies ; we have win-
ked at our small sins ; and
smothered our great sins,
we have promised amend-
ment, but still continue ob-
stinate : our thoughts are
wicked, our deeds damna-
ble, our lives impious, our
sayings deceitful, our
hearts hollow, our deal-
ings double, we run from
sin to sin, as though there
were

Meditations.

were no Hell to swallow us, no Devils to Torment us, no Judge to terrifie us ; we fear not Hell, nor look after Heaven ; we have drawn down thy judgments upon us, thou hast justly sent the plague of Pestilence upon us, and we deserve to be swept away from the face of the Earth. Our sins are manifold, our transgressions without number, that have even sought for vengeance, and now according to our deserts, thou hast sent the destroying Angel to mark us out for death. The Grave seeks to devour us, the Bells toll for us, death and
time

Prayers and

time are agreed to carry us away, Heaven calls for us, & Hell is prepared, our days are ended, our Glass is run, our Time is spent, & we cannot return, but forward we must go. If we look back, the World refuseth us; if forward, the Devils desire us, only in thy merciful help there is hope, & on thee we depend for help. O help us, good God; O spare us, sweet Saviour, and as thou didst spare in the time of King *David*, and chargest the destroying Angel to cease, so we beseech thee now to spare thy people, cease thy anger, take we intreat thee
this

Meditations.

this Plague of Pestilence
from us withhold back thy
wrath, & as thou sparedst
the repenting *Ninivites*, so
make us repent, and spare
this Land. O Lord, help
us unfeignedly to bewail
our former life past, and
seek effectual amendment
for a better Life hereafter,
to which better Life pre-
sently bring us ; Lord, we
beseech thee, and therein
hold us for ever by the
power of thy Grace in Je-
sus Christ To whom with
thee, O Father, and the
blessed Spirit, be Glory by
us for all thy mercies on
us, now and ever. *Amen.*

A

Prayers and

A Prayer for remission of Sins.

47 **O** LORD, glorious,
everlasting, loving
everlasting Father, I wret-
ched Sinner presume once
again after my sin to re-
turn home unto thee, re-
questing, begging, pray-
ing and desiring of thy
Heavenly Majesty, that
thou wilt look down upon
me. I confess, were it
not for the hope of thy
mercy, and the hold of
thy comfort, and the re-
newing graces which
sometimes I feel from thee,
and that sweet tast and
feel-

Meditations.

feeling of thy good gifts, &
thy heavenly word. I should
sink in dispair; for my sins
are always before me, if I
go they follow me, if I run
they fly after me, if I look
back, they stare upon me;
if I go forward, they meet
me; if I run to the right
hand, they terrifie me; if
to the left hand, they tor-
ment me; if I look down
to the Earth, Hell is ready
to devour me. Now have
I no way but to look up to
thee; Lord, be thou then
there ready to receive me;
help me good God, save
me dear Father, suc-
cour me sweet Redeemer,
assist me merciful Creator,
that

Prayers and

that my Prayers may be so fervent, so zealous, so affectionate towards thee, that they may draw down thy mercies upon me; pour down thy blessings, shower down thy graces, open thy hand of mercy, restore joy and comfort to my heavy and laden Soul; wash away all my sins, wipe away mine iniquities, heal mine infirmities, purge my wicked Mind of all ill thoughts pardon all my damnable deeds, and detestable dealings; renew the good Spirit of heavenly Grace, restore the joys of thy holy comforts upon me, O Lord, let me have some feeling,
some

Meditations.

some taste, some scent, some
glimmering of thy glorious
Presence. Let me feel
some comfort, find some
joy, have some rest. Good
Lord, let me be once truly
renewed by thy Grace, &
settled in thy service, that
I never slip nor slide back;
but grant unto me (most
merciful Father) a sure
and settled dependance up-
on thee, so that in all my
words, works, and deeds, I
may rejoyce in serving,
fearing & obeying thee, &
that I may spend all the re-
sidue of my days, truly ser-
ving thee, seeking to glori-
fie thy name, and magnifie
thy goodness unto me so
long

Prayers and

long as it shall please thee
to lend me breath in this
frail body ; and merciful
Father, favourably govern
and guide, help, instruct &
teach me in thy wisdom to
magnifie thy Name ; mul-
tiply & increase thy mer-
cies on me. O Lord, pre-
serve and prosper me in all
my ways and works, and
all about me. Remember
thy poor Flock, build up
thy Church, renew *SION*,
govern, assist, and bless all
painful Preachers and Pa-
stors of thy Word ; teach
them & us understanding,
rightly to know thee, and
truly to follow thee: awake
my drowsie Soul, defend
it

Meditations.

it from evil imaginations ;
keep me in holy and hea-
venly meditations ; grant
me to observe my ways,
so that I may walk in Pie-
ty and Peace ; set my sins
so before mine Eyes, that
when I look back on them,
I may with sorrow weep,
lament, and repent my
time past, which hath been
spent so wickedly or un-
profitably. O Powerful
Preserver, remember me,
restore me to joy and com-
fort, and hasten in time thy
Salvation unto me. Draw
my lingring Soul, and it
shall run after thee, turn
me unto thee with all wil-
lingness, come thou near
unto

Prayers and

unto me (good Lord) and declare and shew thy mercies on me; establish me in Grace, excite me to goodness; give me grace that I may always grow stronger and stronger to walk before thee, weaker and weaker to sin, faithful and firm in thy service: Grant this (dear God) and merciful Father, for Christs sake our Saviour. *Amen.*

A Prayer for God's Graces.

48 **O** Merciful G O D,
grant me to covet
with an ardent desire,
those things which may
please

Meditations.

please thee, to read the Scriptures diligently, to search them wisely, to know them truly, to understand them rightly, to fulfil them perfectly, to the Laud, Glory and Praise of thy Name, and my own Souls true comfort. Order my living so that I may do that which thou requirest of me? and give me grace that I may know it and have will and power to do it, and that I may obtain those things which be most convenient for the Salvation of my Soul. Good Lord, make my ways sure and straight to thee, so that I fall not

Prayers and

not between prosperity
and adversity ; but that in
prosperous things I may
give thee thanks, and in
adversity be patient, so
that I be not lift up with
the one, nor oppress'd with
the other ; and that I may
rejoyce in nothing but that
which moveth me to thee,
nor be sorry for any thing,
but that which draweth
me from thee ; desiring to
please none, but for thee,
nor fear to displease any
besides thee. Lord let all
worldly things be alike un-
to me in respect of thee :
Let me not be merry with
the joy which is without
thee, and let me desire no-
thing

Meditations.

thing in comparison of thee
let me grow weary of all
which is not in thee, make
me to lift my heart often-
times unto thee, and when
I am ready to fall, do
thou sustain and uphold
me, and grant me with a
stedfast purpose of amend-
ment to seek grace of thee.
O my God, make me hum-
ble without fainting, mer-
ry without lightness, sad
without dulness, true with-
out doubleness, serving
thee without desperation,
trusting in thee without
presumption, telling my
Neighbours their Faults
without dissimulation, tea-
ching them not with words
only,

Prayers and

only or admonition, but much more by my example. Let me be obedient without revenging, patient without grudging. Purge me (O Lord) from all my corruptions. My most loving Lord God, give me, I pray thee, a waking heart; let no evil thoughts withdraw me from thee; let it be so strong that no worldly affections draw it backward, so stable that no tribulation break it, so free, that no violence make any challenge unto it. O my Lord God, grant me wisdom to know thee, conversation to please thee, & finally; hope to embrace thee

Meditations.

thee, Grant this most merciful Father, for the precious blood of that immaculate Lamb, Christ Jesus, our only Lord and Saviour: to whom with thee, and the Holy Ghost, three Persons and one God, be all Glory and Honour, World without end.
Amen.

Our Father which art in Heaven, &c.

*A Prayer for a quiet
Conscience.*

49 **M**OST merciful,
most loving, and
dear Father, I poor dis-
G stressed

Prayers and

stressed sinner, being disturbed in Mind, troubled in Conscience with distraction and vanity of the World, and oppressed in heart with the burden of my sins, come unto thee with a wounded and dejected Soul, intreating thee of thy clemency, to ease me of my troubles, to cease my grief, and comfort my heaviness, gather together my distressed thoughts, and heal my broken heart; for I acknowledge, that I am justly afflicted, so justly that I am even ready to despair of all comforts, but yet my hope is in thy goodness

(O

Meditations.

(O God) come now, I cry
and call, hearken unto my
suit, and hear me, so that I
may find comfort and
peace, and quietness in my
mind. Grant this dear Jesus,
who hast bid us to come to
thee when we are heavy
laden, and promised to
ease us, and commanded
us to cast our care on thee,
and promised to help us,
even so, Lord Jesus, come
quickly. *Amen.*

*A Prayer against wicked and
carnal Thoughts.*

50 **O** Great, good, glo-
rious and everla-
sting Father, I poor deje-

Prayers and

cted wretch, full of filth
and sin, not having one
good thought in me, come
at this time, seeking to
leave my filthy, detestable
Life, desiring thee to grant
my requests, fulfill my de
sires, and hearken to my
Prayers and Petitions: I
confess continually, that I
sin in thought, word and
deed, and there is no good
remaineth in me: When
I think to be fervent in
Prayer, the Devil, the
World and Flesh, assault
me: I cannot do as I would,
I do that which I would
not; Sin follows me, shame
is like to overtake me,
confusion is like to lay
hold

Meditations.

hold upon me, destruction
attends me, and horror
and fears affrights me : I
have no where to fly but
to thee ; help good God,
save me merciful Father,
defend me sweet Creator
a poor wretched Creature,
pull me from my sins, save
and succour me, pardon
and forgive me, wash me,
make me clean, give me
Spiritual Thoughts, and
renew all good purposes
in me, help me to abandon
all foolish, vain, and lustful
thoughts of the flesh ; to
avoid, resist, and shake off
all malicious, reproachful,
and froward Thoughts,
that proceed from the

Prayers and

Devil, or Worldly occasion, so that I may live purely, think chastly, continue soberly in thy service, always fearing to displease so loving a Father as thee, regarding my ways and works, giving good examples to all that live about me, desiring and seeking for nothing, but thee, and thy saving health. Grant this, good Father, both now and ever, for Christ Jesus his sake. *Amen.*

An humble confession of sins.

51 **O** LORD GOD,
heavenly Father, I
am

Meditations.

am ashamed to come before thee, and thy glorious throne, I am so sinful; yet hear me, good God, and grant my request. By my rebellious nature I have offended; I confess my self unworthy of the name of thy Child: I have despised thy Love, forsaken thy ways, made slight of thy Words Scorned thy Chastisements, which thou hast laid upon me, without thinking what I do deserve: I have not felt the affliction of my Bretheren: I have not mourned with them; I fear not thy Judgment, nor dread thy threatening: What shall I

G 4 say?

Prayers and

say ? I regard not thy Mercies ; Curses, and Punishments have I deserved, having so vilely, so willfully, and so obstinately despised thy Favours, I run after sin as Swine after filth, I delight in evil : I apply myself to ungodliness, I tread the steps of the Prophane and Wicked, I incline to Lying, Deceit and Cozenage, Lust, Perjury, and all Wickedness, I go flily away with my Transgressions. I wink at great sins, and I make small sins no sins at all. I promised amendment, but still continue obstinate, I am prone and apt to all badness, dull
and

Meditations.

and heavy to all goodness,
my Thoughts are wicked,
my Deeds damnable, my
Life impious, my Sayings
deceitful, my Heart hol-
low ; I say one thing and
do another, I run from sin
to sin, from drunkenness to
lust, from lust to great sins,
from one bad deed to ano-
ther, from one ill thought
to another : I am stained
with Pollution, stult with
Covetousness, desirous of
the World, ambitious of
Honour, I never look back
how wicked I have been,
but continue as though
there were no Hell to swal-
low me, no Devils to tor-
ment me, no Conscience to

Prayers and

accuse me no Judgment to
terrifie me, I regard not
Hell, nor look after Hea-
ven, I become loathsome
unto thee ; yet most glori-
ous LORD GOD, once
again look back, I beseech
thee, behold and pittie me,
poor condemned Wretch,
seal me a pardon. Help, O
heal me, dear Father, open
the Fountain of thy Mer-
cies, let down the shower
of thy Grace upon me. Let
tears distill from my eyes,
Sighs and Sobs rise from
my heart ; let sorrow kill
my sins, & grant unto me
speedy courses of amend-
ment of life, and a steadfast
and sure confidence in thy
mer-

Meditations.

mercy to pardon all my
sins, & thy Grace to purge
me from all my uncleanness
and wickedness, by
Jesus Christ my Lord and
Saviour. *Amen.*

*A Prayer to be said of all
that are fallen into Poverty*

52 **O** Merciful, ever li-
ving and loving
Father, I intreat thee, upon
the bended knees of my
Soul, to hearken unto my
grievous complaints: grant
(O Lord God) that I may
be enabled to go through
all the afflictions thou hast
pleased to lay upon me, &
that

Prayers and

that all times I may call to mind, that it is not me only, but many of thy dear Servants, with whom thou dealest in like sort. Grant I may bear my Poverty with Patience, as *Job* did, that at all times I may remember I came naked into the World; and brought nothing with me, and that which I have had, came from thee. Grant, merciful Father, that in all extremities I may never despair of thy mercy, but that by it, I may be more inclined to call & seek for thy spiritual comforts & heavenly blessings. And though I want worldly Wealth, yet grant me

Meditations.

me thy heavenly graces, so shall I not want, and grant that the afflictions of this life, may be sanctified unto me, and turn to my eternal good, thro' Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

A Prayer in Prosperity.

53 **I** Wretched sinner appear here before thee merciful Father, intreating thee of thy great bounty, that at all times thou hast given me a more liberal portion of worldly wealth, so thou wilt please to grant me Grace ever to be thankful to thee for the same;

Prayers and

same; and grant I may so use it, that it may be for thy Glory, my Salvation, & the Comfort of the needy. Grant I may not be hard hearted, but liberally give and bestow it upon the oppressed and fatherless; on the blind, the lame, & the naked; to comfort & succour all that are in distress; to further thy word and plantation of thy Gospel. O grant (most merciful Father) that the more earthly blessings that thou givest me, I may the more seek thy heavenly Graces, & that I may be the more humbled in due consideration of my great unthankfulness;

Meditation 54

fulnesse; and that I may
seek to live more piously
and religiously; and that
when I depart this vale of
misery I may be mindful
to leave some Good and
Godly examples of Char-
ity to those that follow.
Grant that this my wealth
may not be a stumbling-
block or hindrance to my
Salvation, but that it may
be a furtherance to me in
all good and godly actions.
Grant this, good God, even
for Christ Jesus sake, I in-
treat thee; too whom with
thee and the Holy Spirit,
be Praise and Glory now
and ever. *Amen.*

Prayers and

*A Prayer for all in distress at
Sea, by Storm or Tempest.*

54 **O** Lord God, Heavenly Father, maker and founder of the Sea and Land, look down upon us miserable Sinners, who have justly plucked down thy vengeance upon us. O Lord we have provoked thy Wrath, we have deserv'd to be swallowed up quick by the merciless Waters? O Father, the floods come over us, they even enter into our Soul, O Lord the Seas rage & rise against us: Here we see thy Wonders and Judgments, in the twink-

Meditations.

twinkling of an Eye thou
canst destroy us. O Lord we
confess and acknowledge
we have sinned. Most justly
therefore are thy fierce
Judgments come upon us :
Yet (Lord spare us) Lord
we beseech thee ; let us not
be swallowed up quick,
where there is none to help
us, but thou canst save us, O
Lord, cease these storms &
tempests ; cease, we beseech
thee, these swelling Seas ;
command these blustering
winds and they shall obey.
We are at the pit of De-
struction, at the brink and
brim : *Save us Master we pe-
rish, Lord increase our faith,*
strengthen it in thee : Mer-
ciful

Prayers and

ciful Father; take us we beseech thee, into thy protection: be O Lord, our shelter; and, if thou hast appointed death unto us at this present, (O Lord) be thou present, we beseech thee, to receive our Souls, until the joyful Resurrection of our Bodies, and then receive our Bodies and Souls into thy Kingdom. If it be life, then grant we may so live, that we may take warning by these afflictions now upon us, that we may live to amend our lives, and live more godly, religiously and righteously all the days of our lives. Grant this good God,
and

Meditations.

and merciful Father, for
Jesus Christ his sake, our
only Saviour, *Amen.*



*A Prayer for one that Tra-
vels by Land.*

55 **O** Lord, lead me in
the paths of righte-
ousness, and direct my go-
ings in the way of truth.
We (O Lord) are born to
Travel, and Man hath no
certain place of abode; our
days are like a span, and
our lives pass as a weavers
shuttle. O what is man that
thou art mindful of him,
or

Prayers and

or the Son of Man, that thou regardest him? We are like to a bubble, or a blast, we go hence and are seen no more. O teach us to number our days, that we may walk in the paths of godliness; direct our steps in the word of Truth; and as thou hast appointed Man to be a Pilgrim, & to travel for his living, & sojourn upon the earth, so, O Lord, guide & govern me in my travel, that I may go on with Comfort in this my Journey. Be thou my God, my help, and guide to direct me aright in, my way and business; keep me from all fears and dangers
by

Meditations.

by Thieves, or other mischief and trouble; that I may have no disturbance in my Journey, no lets nor hindrances, no sorrow nor heaviness, but for my sins; and, O Lord, keep & bless all my Friends at home & abroad, and keep them and me in perfect health, till my return unto them. Thou (O Lord) knowest the sorrows of my heart, and I cannot express my griefs so well as thou knowest them: Then (O Lord) let me ever feel and find accordingly thy Comfort; do thou put good Thoughts and godly Cogitations always in my Mind, that I
may

Prayers and

may so think upon Heavenly things, as one that hath set and settled his affections and desires to come unto that place. Gracious Lord, make all my Thoughts, Words, and Works, well pleasing unto thee: And now let thy good Angels conduct and lead me, that they may be as a Cloud by day, and as a Pillar by night, to watch and attend upon me, to keep me, that I fall not, nor go away. And for my chief Companion, grant that I may ever have a quiet Conscience, and a willing mind to serve, fear, and obey thee, and a contrite

Meditations.

trite and sorrowful Soul
for sin; and so direct me
in the ways of Truth, that
I may not stray, or go a-
way by any by-paths of
ungodliness, but conduct
me in the steadfast ways of
uprightness, wherein give
me strength and grace to
strive to perform in all
things thy most righteous
Will, and to submit my self
unto thee, through Jesus
Christ our only Lord and
Saviour. *Amen.*



A Prayer for a sick Man.

56 **O** Lord, glorious, loving Lord God, I beseech thee to hear my Complaint, and grant me strength to pour out my Prayer before thee; O God I have sinned, I have sinned, and done wickedly; I have all my life long run from sin to sin; I have transgressed, I have done so bad, that I cannot call to remembrance. Yet merciful Saviour, return unto me, that I may have a feeling of that good Spirit in me: Let not the sin of My youth

Meditations.

youth, nor the iniquity of
that time lie upon me;
and O God, as thou hast
laid thy hand of Affliction
upon me, so I do intreat
thee to Arm me with pa-
tience to bear this my Visi-
tation patiently. If it be
thy will to take me out of
this transitory Life, pre-
pare me so, O good God, &
fit me, that I may be recei-
ved into thy Kingdom.
Arm me, and strengthen
me to bear the burthen
hereof patiently, to under-
go this my affliction wil-
lingly, and to fight it out
manfully. But unless thou
help, what am I, O God?
A Worm, a poor dejected
H Wretch.

Prayers and

Wretch. I have no comfort but from thee, and of thee; therefore I do fly unto thee, beseeching thee either to restore me to health, and withall to amendment of Life, or else to receive me & to take me into thy Kingdom of Glory. Lord cease my pain, ease my grief. Lord I intreat thee to grant, that neither the Devil nor the World, may any way prevail to attempt me, but grant me strength to overcome all. Send thy good Angels to keep & conduct me, both in sickness and in health, & grant I may not fear Death, but that I may
be

Meditations.

be fitted and prepared for it, yet, if it be thy gracious Will; Let me recover a little strength, and spare me a little before I go hence, and am no more seen. O grant that I may find thy Grace now work for my good in me; that if it be thy Will to take me hence, Lord receive me unto thee, and then come Lord Jesus, come quickly. And so Lord I commit and commend my self unto thee, in that Prayer which thou hast taught me, saying,

Our Father which art, &c.

*Lord strengthen my Faith
to the end.*

I believe in God, &c.

Prayers and

*A Prayer for a Woman in
the Time of her Travel.*

57 **R**ighteous and holy
Lord God, I do
now find by experience,
the fruit of my sin, that I
must travel in sorrow, and
bring forth in Pain, and I
unfeignedly adore the
truth of thy sacred Word,
as certifying unto me, that
sorrow must be in the E-
vening, so comforting me
also against the Morning
that a Child shall be born;
willingly I do desire to
submit my self, in hope,
unto this day thy Chastise-
ment, and to learn the de-
sert

Meditations.

sert of my sins, horrible in themselves, that these temporal pains are fore-runners of eternal; and yet by thy Mercy may be so sanctified unto me, as not only to prevent eternal Vengeance, but also prepare for eternal Comforts, even to be saved by bearing of Children. Grant me therefore, gracious Father, true repentance and pardon for my sins past, that they may not stand at this time, in this my need, between me and thy Mercy. Give me a Comfortable feeling of thy love in Christ, which may sweeten all other pangs,

H 3 though

Prayers and

though never so violent or extreme. Make me still to lift up my Soul unto thee in my greatest Agonies ; knowing that thou alone must give a blessing to the ordinary means for my safe deliverance. Lay no more upon me then I am able to endure , and strengthen my weak body to the bearing of what sorrow soever, by which it shall seem good unto thee, to make trial of me. Grant me to consider, that howsoever it be with me, yet I am always in thine hand, whose mercies fail not ; who will be found in the Mount, and in greatest extremity,

Meditations.

tremity, and to whom be the issues of death; So prepare me therefore to death, that I may be fit for life even to yield fruit alive unto the World, and to be renewed and enabled to nourish the same. And when thou hast safely given me the expected fruit of my Womb, make me with a thankful heart to consecrate both it and my self wholly to thy Service all the days of my Life, through Jesus Christ mine only Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

Prayers and

*A Thanksgiving after safe
Deliverance.*

58 **B**lessed for ever be
thy great and glo-
rious Name, (most dear
and loving Father) for thy
great mercy to me most
weak and sinful Woman;
wonderful art thou in all
thy Works, O LORD, the
riches of thy Mercies are
past finding out : thou hast
plunged me into great Af-
flictions, and yet thou hast
returned and refreshed me
again : Thou hast brought
me to the fear of the
Grave, and yet thou hast
raised me up again to Life.

O

Meditations.

O how hast thou shewed
thy power in my weak-
ness? How hath thy loving
kindness prevailed against
my unworthiness? Thou
mightest for my sins, have
left me to perish in mine
extremities, but thou hast
compassed me about with
joyful deliverances. Thou
mightest have made my
Womb a Grave to bury
the Dead; or in affording
life to another, thou mightest
have procured my
Death: but yet thou hast
not only made my Womb
a Well-spring of Life, but
restored Life unto me also,
for the cherishing thereof.
Marvellous, O Lord, are

Prayers and

thy works, infinite are thy mercies, my Soul by present experience knoweth it well. O my Soul praise thou the Lord, and all that is within me, praise his holy Name. My Soul praise thou the Lord, and forget not all his benefits: thou hast heard my prayers, and looked upon my sorrow; thou hast redeemed my life from death, and healed mine infirmities, and Crowned me with thy everlasting compassions. O give me I humbly pray thee, a thankful Heart, not only now, while the memory and sense of thy favour is fresh before me, but continually, even so long as I have

Meditations.

have any being. Grant that I may learn by this lively evidence of thy Power and Mercy, for ever hereafter to depend only on thee: Quicken me also, to call holy Duties, that my thankfulness may appear in my pure and Christian Carriage. Make me a kind and careful Mother, willing to undergo the pain and trouble of Education. Let no niceness or curiosity hinder me from those Services, to which both Nature and Religion have appointed me. Let me also be careful when time requireth, to season the Fruit thou hast given me,
with

Prayers and

with the saving knowledge
of thee and thy dear Son;
that my desire may mani-
festly appear to be set for
the increase of thy King-
dom. Vouchsafe so to order
my afflictions, and to bring
me in obedience unto
thee, that if it should be thy
pleasure, either now or
hereafter, to take this In-
fant from me, I may as
willingly part with it, as
thou freely gavest it me.
And now, O God, perfect in
me that strength which
thou hast begun, make me
to grow in care to serve
thee faithfully, both in the
duties of Piety, & in other
business of my Place and
Cal-

Meditations.

Calling, that I may be a
comfort to my Husband,
an example to my Neigh-
bours, a grace to my Pro-
fession, and a means of glo-
ry to thy Name, through
Jesus Christ my Lord and
Saviour. *Amen.*

*A Prayer at the Hour of
Death.*

59 **O** Heavenly LORD
GOD, we poor
wretches being overcome
with grief, come all here,
attending thy good plea-
sure with this sick Servant
of thine: O Lord, incline

Prayers and

to hear our Prayers, and his complaint unto thee. But now, O Lord, present and send thy good Angels and thy Spirit to attend us; be with us (O Lord) and comfort this sick Person; and now, if the time be come of his departure, grant (O Lord) he may depart with godly comfort, & joy everlasting, into thy Kingdom. Ease (O Lord) his griefs, mitigate his pains, assuage his sorrows, & give him a lively touch of thy heavenly Comfort. Put by all worldly thoughts, and beat down all bad suggestions; let nothing but good come within

Meditations.

wichin his mind, and grant
that he may to the last gasp
of his breath, breath out
still some comfort of thy
help; and grant when he
hath done his last to finish
this mortal life, then he may
with *Lazarus*; be carried
into *Abraham's* bosom. O
Lord forgive him. O Lord
receive him. O Lord pro-
tect him. O Lord succour
and save him; and now and
for ever grant he may rest
with thee in eternal Glory.
Hear us (good Father)
for this our Brother (or
Sister) and do for him (or
her) and us, according to
thy Fatherly mercy in Je-
sus Christ, to whom we
com-

Prayers and

commend him, with these
our Prayers for him, and all
his and our occasions, in
that Prayer which thy blef-
sed Son hath taught us,
Our Father which art, &c.

A Trance at the time of Death.

60 **O** Lord GOD, come
unto me, plant thy
Holy Angels about me, be
not far from me now; Lord
help, and take me into thy
protection: Let no ill Imagi-
nations, nor Wickedness take
hold upon me; but, O Lord
now be ready to help me; re-
ceive me, and let thy good
Spirit

Meditations.

Spirit be in me; Come
Lord Jesus, come quickly,
come receive me, and take
me into thy Tuition. I for-
give all the World, grant
me likewise forgiveness of
them, and of thee (Lord) for
all my sins: Wash me, O Lord,
and fully cleanse me of them
all, and so receive me, O Lord
save me, O Lord be my Rock,
my Shield, my Defence, my
Comfort, my Receiver. Now
Lord I yield my self, my soul
and my body, into thy hands,
come Lord Christ, and be
with me now and for ever.
Come Lord Jesus, come quick-
ly and receive my Soul into
thy Protection. Amen.

Prayers and

A Prayer in time of War.

61 **O** Glorious L O R D
G O D, and ever-
lasting Father, we intreat
thee mercifully to look
down upon us, and hearken
unto our Complaints and
Desires, and grant we be-
seech thee, our requests. O
Gracious Father, thou
knowest our sins, and our
iniquities are not hid from
thee, they lie open to thy
Judgment; yet we know
that thy mercies are the
cure of our miseries, and
when we fly to thee, thou
drawest near to us. We be-
seech

Meditations.

seech thee now to be favourable, and spare us for all our sins past, and be ready to deliver us from sins to come; look down in mercy upon us? and as thou hast been our everlasting defence, so now defend us from the rage of our Enemies: Go in and out (O Lord) before our Armies, before our Generals, before our Fleets and Commanders; And grant we may be thy Soldiers, to fight under thy Banner. Stir up our Hearts and Strength against the Enemy: Defend thy afflicted flock: Remember, we beseech thee, the burthen
of

Prayers and

of misery laid upon thy Church at this time, in *Germany, France, Ireland,* and elsewhere ; and in thy due time restore it to her former Glory : Settle our Hearts and Affections to regain and recover that which hath been lost : And grant that we seeing their double dealing, may no longer trust to them which have no truth : They imagine mischief in their hearts ; and are set on fire to do ill, but break thou the knot of their Malice, lay open their Plots, discover their Devices, weaken their Armies, overthrow their Intentions, confound
their

Meditations.

their counsels, & consume
their numbers. O LORD,
thou hast in time past
made the Stars to sit in or-
der, the Sun to stand still,
the Seas to devour, the
Winds to overthrow thy
enemies: So now, O Lord,
cause these thy Creatures
to assist & help us, and our
distressed Neighbours, that
all the World may know
it is thou that fightest our
Battles, and undertakest
our cause. Finally, O Lord,
bless we beseech thee, us,
& every one of us, in what
we shall take in hand for
defence of thy CHURCH
and TRUTH. Bless, we
intreat thee, our Queen, our
State,

Prayers and

State, our Clergy, our
Commonality, & give thy
blessing unto us all: And
last of all bleſs, we beſeech
thee, all the worthy Com-
pany of Soldiers in the
chief City, and in all places
of this land. Bleſs, O Lord,
we intreat thee, their in-
ventions of War, and make
them expert by their pra-
ctices. Preserve and Proſ-
per all our undertakings,
ſo that all the World may
know that thou art the gui-
der of our Counſels, and
Leader of our Armies.
Grant this, dear Father,
and all other good things
unto us, for the good of
the Church amongſt us,
and

Meditations.

and the relief of others by
us, now and always, for
Christ Jesus sake our only
Saviour. *Amen.*

*A Form of thanksgiving
and Prayer, to be used of
godly Christians in their
Families.*

62 **W**E most humbly
thank thee, O
heavenly Father, for all
thy loving kindness so
abundantly shewed unto
us : not only this day (or
Night) but all the time of
our Life, unto this pre-
sent ; and especially for
that it hath pleased thee
of

Prayers and

of thy fatherly favour, and infinite love before we had done good or ill in thy sight, and before the beginning of the world, to write us in the book of Life, and unchangeably to ordain that we should be thy Children and Vessels prepared to Honour, with the rest of the Saints. And we thank thee for the great Work of our Creation, which, as it is wonderful in it self, being first framed according to thine own Image, in Wisdom, Holiness and Immortality; so doth the excellency thereof much more clearly appear, in that thou hast made

Meditations.

made infinite numbers of other Creatures upon the earth, in the heavens above, and in the waters beneath, not only far inferior unto us, but to serve for our use and benefits: Yea, thou hast made thy holy Angels ministering spirits to attend, guard & defend thy Children. But most especially, we praise thy holy Name, & evermore thank thy Majesty, for the abasing & manifesting of thine only begotten Son in our poor and frail Nature, that he might in the same, yield unto thee, O Father, a full and perfect obedience for us, such as in thy most just

Prayers and

Law was required at our hands: And that by his most painful and hellish sufferings, Anguishes and Horrors both in Soul and Body, as well in death as in Life, we might be made free from all those everlasting sorrows, fears & torments deserved of us, and prepared for all those that do not believe: Even so was it thy good pleasure O Father most merciful, that he in the very substance of our Nature, through that Almighty power of thy God-head, should not only bear the intolerable weight of all our sins, together with all the

Meditations.

the punishment due to the same, but also overcome sin, destroy the power of sin in us, and obtain for us a glorious victory over Sin, the World, Death, Hell, and all Enemies. Yea, that he should restore unto us, by the virtue and worthiness of that his Obedience, all good things which before were lost through our folly and disobedience; and that in a more perfect Estate than ever we had been; insomuch as now our strength, our wisdom, our righteousness, our worthiness, our assurance of thy favour, our joy & felicity, resteth not in our

Prayers and

selves frail Creatures, but
in him our only & Almighty
Saviour, who sitteth at
thy right hand, in Glory &
Power for evermore: that
henceforth there shall be
no more Sacrifice for sin,
no other Mediator to in-
treat thy Majesty: no more
Deservers or Purchasers of
thy favours for us; but that
all flesh should confess,
that there is no other
Name under Heaven, by
which we may be saved,
but only the Lord Jesus.
And that whosoever rejoy-
ceth, might rejoyce in the
Cross of Christ. This Myste-
ry (O Lord) is too high for
us, we cannot comprehend
the

Meditations.

the fulness, the length, the breadth, and the deepness thereof perfectly; Yea, all the Wisdom of Man is too gross and blind to perceive any part thereof perfectly; the very Angels do always wonder at the same, and the Devil and Antichrist, with all the Princes of the World, have laboured utterly to extinguish the knowledge and memory of the same. Yet now in these days, thou hast again clearly revealed the same by the preaching of the Word, and we here present through the abundance of thy Grace, in some sore forced

Prayers and

to see and feel the glorious power of the same.

But such is our horrible blindness, perverseness, vanity and unthankfulness, that we ~~do not~~ not clearly, we ~~do not~~ not perfectly, nor weigh it sufficiently, nor meditate thereon effectually; for we should Love thy Majesty, for this famous work of our Redemption by Jesus Christ, with a most perfect Love, without all comparison, & far above all other things in the World. Whatsoever we love, we should love, for thy sake, so that nothing should be more dear and joyful unto us, than the

Meditations.

the setting forth of thy
Glory, the praising of thy
Name, the furtherance of
thy true Religion, and pro-
sperity of the Church; and
nothing so great a grief,
as the contrary to any of
these: But this love we find
very cold in us; for we
long not earnestly to be in
thy continual presence, we
are very negligent, & soon
weary in speaking unto
thy Majesty by Prayer, and
in hearing of thy Majesty
speaking unto us, by the
Ministry of thy Holy
Word: We take no Feli-
city in meditating of thy
Mercies in declaring thy
Praises, in commending
thy

Prayers and

thy wonderful Works :
Yea, we have oftentimes
more pleasure in beholding
vanities, in worldly mat-
ters, in idle and prophane
exercise, and in works of
darkness : We are violent
in revenging our own in-
juries, and in hating those
that do hurt our selves ;
but we are not so much as
heartily grieved with those
that offend thy Majesty by
sin, and obscure thy Glo-
ry, by corrupting thy true
Religion; our love toward
our Brethren, ought to be
like the Love wherewith
thou hast loved us, that is,
pure, uncorrupt, vehement
and everlasting ; but we
love

Meditations.

love for our own pleasures
and for worldly respects ;
we are soon provoked to
anger, we mislike long, we
are hard to be reconciled ;
we are not so dutiful to our
Parents and Governours,
so kind to our Friends, so
charitable to Strangers, so
courteous to those that are
in necessity as we ought to
be. We should be holy and
pure as thou art pure, be-
cause thou (Lord) hast re-
deemed us from all impure-
ness, that we should con-
tinually offer up unto thee
our Souls and Bodies, as a
pure living and acceptable
Sacrifice : And because we
are thy Temples wherein

Prayers and

it pleaseth thee to dwell by
thy Grace and holy Spirit :
But we feel too too many
rebellious motions, and
corrupt cogitations, such
as we are ashamed to speak
of to any mortal Man : Our
minds should be drawn
up on high with the love
of heavenly and spiritual
Things, because we are
Strangers here, & Citizens
in Heaven ; for that we
know the things that are
here below, to be uncer-
tain, and transitory as the
flower of the Grass ; our
selves frail and mortal,
and the joys prepared for
us after this mortal life, to
be infinite, inestimable, and
ever.

Meditations.

everlasting: Howbeit, we spend a great part of our time in following after the things of this World, in providing for this lump of Earth; our studies, cares and communications, are very earthly and prophane. Finally, we have broken all thy Laws, we can perform no good thing perfectly, We consider not always effectually, that we are in thy presence, & that all things are open unto thee, be they in respect of Men never so secret: We depend not constantly upon thy Providence, we rest not with full contentation of mind, in thy good pleasure;

Prayers and

sure; we have not yet learned so wholly to resign ourselves, our Children, our Friends, and those blessings which thou hast given us into thy hands, and to be contented without any murmuring or repining with that estate of Life wherein thou placest us. We are not careful enough for those whom thou hast committed to our especial Charge. We corrupt and abuse all thy good Gifts. We cannot rehearse the multitude of our offences, for we are guilty of infinite Crimes, which we remember not, nor ever knew, because of our ignorance
and

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Meditations.

and negligence. And although we be in so ill a case, so vile of Nature, so void of goodness, so full of infirmities, and so near a thousand destructions, yet are we not thoroughly humbled before thee: We do not loath and lament our sins as we ought to do; we flatter our selves, we extenuate our faults, we inwardly dislike those that admonish us, we are slow in reforming of our selves; yea, which thou of all things most abhorrest, we are soon blown up with vain glory, & made proud of thy Gifts, and of those good things which thou of
thy

Prayers and

thy goodness workest in us and by us: Therefore, O Lord, according to the multitude of these our miseries, we fly unto the throne of thy Grace, as they that are guilty of infinite crimes, craving thy pardon as they are ashamed of their foulness, and fain would be washed with the Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, as they that are wounded to everlasting death, and desire to be healed with the sovereign Oil of thy Grace and Holy Spirit. O Lord forsake not those who desire earnestly to forsake themselves. Receive us into thy Favour, who

Meditations.

who only appeal to thy Mercies. We know not any way to come unto thee, nor any means to obtain any good thing at thy hands, but only by him, even our Lord & Saviour, who saith, *I am the way, the truth, and the life.* Who hath promised, that *whatsoever we ask in his Name, thou wilt give it us:* And of whom thou thy self hast witnessed by all the Prophets and Apostles, that *He is the propitiation for all our Sins.* In him therefore, and thro' him we ask all good things of thy infinite Majesty. O Lord, although our Faith be weak, our Repentance,

Prayers and

penitance, our Sanctification, and all things in us imperfect, yet hear and accept us for the worthiness and perfection of thy Son, our Advocate and Redeemer. O Lord our God, forsake not the work of thine own Hands, remember not our sins any more, but vouchsafe to finish that new birth which thou hast begun in us; and to this end, we beseech thee always to soften and to prepare our hearts by thy Holy Spirit, unto the perfect obedience of thy Gospel, and to imprint in our Consciences a deep feeling of our sins, howbeit
in

Meditation's.

in such measure, as that we be not driven thereby to dispair of thy mercies, but better humbled before thee, provoked to a more serious Repentance of our former evil Life, to a greater fervency in praying, and seeking for thy help, and a more carefulness ever hereafter to flee even the shew of every evil thing, and all occasions of offending against thee, and our brethren; but because it is not enough to avoid evil; we beseech thee to give us a full assurance and a sweet feeling of thy Love towards us in Jesus Christ, wherewith our hearts

Prayers and

hearts being thoroughly inflamed, we may bring forth abundantly the fruits of thy Holy Spirit, and shew our faith by good works, to the testifying of our most dutiful Service towards thee: (O Lord our God) the stopping of the mouths of the ungodly, and provoking of a great many to praise thy most holy Name, for those good things which thou hast wrought in us: Therefore grant us, O most merciful Lord, a zeal for thy Glory; according to knowledge, boldness for thy Cause, joyned with Humility, Wisdom with Sincerity, joy-

107

Meditations.

joyfulness of mind, and
true sadness of our sins,
and the afflictions of our
brethren. Teach us to obey
and reverence our Superi-
ors, to be loving to all our
Equals and Inferiors, cha-
ritable to our Enemies, de-
sirous to do good to all
Men, to be diligent in our
Callings, to abhor all de-
ceitful and unrighteous
dealings. Make us thankful
for all thy benefits, faithful
in using them according to
thy will, patient in forbear-
ing of them, constant in
suffering the loss of all
earthly benefits for thy e-
verlasting truth. And be-
cause it is thy good plea-
sure,

Prayers and

sure, that we should wrestle and strive against our rebellious Nature, and a huge Host of spiritual Enemies, we beseech thee to arm us from above with the compleat armour of thy grace. And for as much as our Strength and Fortitude is nothing in respect of our adversaries, assist us mightily, that in all Temptations, Dangers & Assaults, we may lay sure hold with the hand of Faith upon the Victory of our Saviour Jesus Christ, that albeit we be not able to overcome in our own persons; yet we may overcome in his who hath overcome for us, and
so

Meditations.

so after this Warfare finished, be made partakers of those Promises which are knit unto the victory even the Crown of Glory, the fellowship of all the Saints, and the most comfortable Presence of thy Majesty, through the same our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. And we pray not only for our selves, but also for all Nations of the World, that they may be called to the comfortable Light, and effectual feeling of thy Gospel thro' the Preaching of the same; and for those that are already called, O Lord, we humbly beseech thee to make up, and happily

Prayers and

pily to finish that heavenly Work of the new Birth, which thou in mercy hast begun in them, strengthening and comforting their Souls daily more and more with the lively Food of thy blessed Word and Sacraments, sincerely ministered, according to thy most holy Ordinance; the which inestimable Grace, we beseech thee to make this Church of *England* partaker of, yet more abundantly. And to this end, we most humbly crave of thy Majesty, to bless thy Servant, *Anne*, our gracious Queen and Governor, with all manner of Excellent Bles-

109

Meditations.

Blessings, that she may worthily seek, and set forth thy Glory, by advancing thy true Religion, and suppressing all things that hinder the same. Give Grace to this Honourable Parliament, and to all that be put in Authority under them, faithfully to assist in this great Work. Make the Ministers of thy Work zealous in thy Truth, diligent in their Office, wise in propounding thy Mysteries unto the people, happy and comfortable in their labours. Increase the number of them, for they are few, and great is the multitude of those that want
and

Prayers and

and thirst after thy Word. Finally, shew thy self (O Lord) mighty and merciful in relieving and comforting all those that be afflicted and humbled with any kind of Calamity, whether it be extreme Poverty, or bodily Sickness, or inward grief of Mind for the burden of their Sins. But especially, remember those in thy mercy, which are in Bonds or Troubles for thy Truth; granting unto them patience in Suffering, and chearfulness in Praising thy Glorious Name for thy everlasting Love towards them in Christ, and constancy in pro-

Meditations.

Professing a good cause
with a good Conscience
unto the end, through our
Lord Jesus Christ, in whole
Name we pray for these
and all other graces need-
ful, either for our selves, or
for the whole Church, as
he hath taught and com-
manded us, saying,

*Our Father which art in
Heaven, &c.*

A Heavenly Meditation.

63 **O** LORD my good
GOD, and most
gracious Father in Jesus
K Christ,

Prayers and

Christ, I wretched sinner;
here prostrate before thy
Throne of Grace, do even
out of the deep affliction of
my wretched heart, look
upon thee, and with sighs
and groans unfeigned for
sin, my humbled Soul doth
call upon thee, who art my
only hope, stay, and refuge
in all distresses, being of
power only to help, and
canst only ease and set me
free. Look not upon my
sins, I humbly beseech thee,
let them not stand be-
tween me and thy mercy.
Set aside all my guiltiness,
Blot out all my transgressi-
ons, which daily and hour-
ly do highly provoke thee

Meditations.

to wrath and indignation
against me ; and behold
me in mercy, for thy Son
Christ Jesus sake ; in, by
and for whom only, mercy
is to be had. I know and
acknowledge, O Lord that
thou art a just God in all
thy judgments, and none
more fit and worthy to
receive the sharpest tast of
thine afflicting & correct-
ing hand than my self, in
respect of the huge heap
of sin and wickedness by
me committed : But as
thou art most just, so (glo-
rious Father) thou art also
most merciful ; and upon
thy gracious favour and
goodness in Christ Jesus,

Prayers and

I poor, miserable, sinful
wretch do depend, being
my sole and only support
in my greatest distresses
and dangers, be it by sick-
ness, disgraces, losses, or
any other cross or calamity
whatsoever. And when-
soever any of these out-
ward afflictions are upon
me, or any other inward
conflicts of the mind do
take hold on me (how
sharply & bitterly soever)
yet teach me, O Lord, by
thy Grace to make use
thereof to my comfort, and
that I may find, feel, and
confess that it is thy hand,
dear Father, that smite
me, and that thou smitest
me

Meditations.

me for my good, even that
the burning heat of sin
may be quenched in me,
and I be wholly drawn
from my corrupt ways,
lest I perish with this wic-
ked, ungodly, and grace-
less World: Therefore,
direct thou my heart and
mind, to joy in this and all
other thy fatherly correcti-
ons, and to praise thy Ma-
jesty for the same, and with
gladsonness of heart, to
entertain griefs, troubles,
or any affliction of the
sharpest kind, that thy fa-
therly goodness shall think
meet to lay upon me; for,
O LORD, this wretched
Carcass of mine is a mass

Prayers and

of corruption, favouring
of nothing else but earth
and earthly matter, full of
Blains, Sores, and deep
Wounds, and had need of
some sharp Corrosive to
cleanse the same, that they
may be the better cured;
otherwise (dear Father)
this poor Imprisoned Soul
of mine cannot escape
from being defiled with all
manner of evil, and there-
by in hazard to be spoiled
of those Heavenly Gra-
ces, wherewith it should
be adorned and beautified
to Eternal Life. This
wretched Soul of mine
(most gracious God) doth
pine away for sorrow and
even

even pant for breath, longing to receive increase of life from the living Stock Christ Jesus, which must be thy work, (and thy work only;) and work this effectually, I humbly beseech thee, which way thou wilt, and do thou give what thou wilt have me to do, and then do what thou wilt to me, and with me thy unworthy Servant. *For though I should walk through the Valley of the shadow of Death, I could fear none evil; for thou art with me, thy Rod and thy Staff do comfort me: If I should enter into an enumeration of my sins, there*

Prayers and

is no end of them: For,
how much time have I
idly spent? How much
time have I vainly spent?
How much time have I
most wickedly spent? And
how little time have I em-
ployed in thy Service?
This, O LORD, carrieth
in it an infinite number of
sins, and for this I deserve
justly to be forsaken of
thee, and to be reserved &
left unto endless condem-
nation both of Body and
Soul. But, however in
Youth I have not heeded
this, or in Age may easily
forget this; yet let thy grace
(most gracious Father) re-
mind the one, inform the
other,

Meditations.

other, and reform both;
that by thy grace I may be
taught and directed, with
judgment to feel, with
conscience to acknowledg,
with remorse to lament my
former strayings and steps
ignorantly undertaken, un-
graciously followed, and
fearfully continued to my
endless danger, if thou
O Lord, do not in mercy
stay my courses, & set me
in the right path of eternal
salvation: Be pleas'd to this
end (most loving Father) to
follow me still with thine
afflicting hand, which is
thy Fatherly School, by
thee which thou dost warn
& admonish thy Children

K 5

and

and Servants to look into
their sins past, whereby
they provoke thee to pu-
nish, thou dost teach and
instruct them to behold
the sins present, which
provoke still, and to see in-
to the peril and danger to
come, unto which sin doth
bring them, and by which
thou dost punish and cor-
rect them; not to destru-
ction, but to amendment.
Therefore, dear God, let
me embrace Affliction as a
welcome Guest, that Sin
the cause thereof may be
more and more wasted, &
Glory the end thereof may
be more and more hastned.
Thou takest no pleasure in
pu-

punishing thy Children ;
but because thou wilt not
the death of a Sinner, but
that he may turn and live ;
therefore thou punishest :
which is the chastising Rod
of a loving Father, and not
the sharpest Sword of a
severe Judge. It is amend-
ment that thou lookest for
which is the sweet fruit of
true and unfeigned Repen-
tance. But to turn to thee
in part, and not wholly, is
no Repentance : To sorrow
for sin, and to forbear sin in
time of Affliction only, is
no Repentance : To have
an inward touch for sin
without CHRIST, is no
Repentance ; Therefore, O
Lord,

Prayers and

Lord, give me a feeling
Conscience, vouchsafe me
thy Grace to apprehend a
perfect turning from sin;
and grant unto me, I hum-
bly beseech thee, a thorow
changed and truly mortifi-
ed heart, which cannot but
work in me an unfeigned
love of Righteousness, and
a full purpose and endea-
your to serve thee my good
God and most loving Fa-
ther, with a sincere & true-
hearted Affection: And
guide me, O Lord, to fly
unto thee daily by Prayer,
for forgiveness of my sins;
for Grace to reform my
ways, and for true Faith to
take fast hold of mercy in
Christ,

Meditations:

Christ, which is the ready way to be made righteous before thee. And because (dear God) I may speedily still tread in that narrow path which is hardly found and not easily kept (thro' Satans malice, the Worlds enticements, & mine own in-born Corruption.) Let thy working grace never be wanting in me, by which I may be taught and confirmed, neither to prize of Works too high (with the Papists) nor too low (with Libertines) but to learn this for truth against both, that neither with the one must I presume to challenge Merit by my Works, nor
with

Prayers and

with the other must I dare
to take liberty to live as I
list: It is manifest and plain
O LORD, that Papists de-
pend more upon Phari-
saical working, than upon
Christian believing; and
it is true, that the loose
Libertine careth little, ei-
ther for Faith or Fruits:
And both these are flat
Enemies against the Cross
of thy dear Son, our a-
lone Saviour Christ Jesus:
The one taking upon him
to add a supply of merit
by works, to that which is
unto a man a free Gift from
thee by Grace, and a Sacri-
fice all sufficient to satisfie
thee, and ransom us: The
others

Meditations.

others cry out daily in
their most filthy and cor-
rupt Conversation, *Let us
sin, that Grace may abound ;*
& so indeed, turn the Grace
of thee our good God into
wantonness. Far be it from
me, dear Father, to be
insnared by either of these.
And yet an healthful Body,
a full Purse, Glory & world-
ly Reputation, or any
Prosperity, thou knowest,
are dangerous Engines to
intangle an unregenerate
Man; especially when a
sincere Profession, when a
holy Practice are of the
least esteem among Men
that are in fulness of Pro-
sperity: And therefore (my
most

Prayers and

most gracious God) I humbly and heartily thank thy holy Majesty, in that it hath pleased thee to abridg my wealth, to abate my fulness, and to darken my transitory reputation; for though to the outward man they seem bitter and unflavoury, yet to the inner man they bring the sweet and pleasant tast of Repen- tance not to be repented of, which is always follow- ed with sweet fruit of a- mendment. And I most humbly beseech thy fa- therly goodness, that as it hath pleased thee to strike at the door of my heart by these outward crosses, thro²

the

Meditations.

the power of thy blessed Spirit, & thereby to awake me out of that deep sleep of sin and security whereinto I was faln, so as I was deprived (for the same) of all spiritual sense and feeling of Heaven & heavenly things, thro' the multitude of devouring Monsters, as lust, Covetousness, Pride, Vain-glory, Hypocrisie, & a thousand of like nature, which were Syrene Deceivers, haunting me in the days of my Prosperity, and seeking utterly to spoil me of spiritual Life, and to pursue me to eternal Death, hadst not thou of thine infinite goodness

Prayers and

ness discover'd their flights altered their course, and given ability to resist the temptation, against whose strength, without thine arm of defence, I cannot possibly prevail. Therefore, gracious God continue to watch over me, and look upon me still, and behold me in my woful and wretched estate; give me Wisdom from above to foresee all dangers that may befall unto me, a true constant Faith to resist the fury, and all fulness of spiritual strength, that I may hold out the Combate, and overcome; for I long much, O Lord, to be even estranged

Meditations.

ged and free from those
snarcs and evils with which
I have been too much ac-
quainted, and to be a fami-
liar Companion to those
that fear thee, and to em-
brace and follow all holy
Duties which thou lookest
for, and requirest at the
hands of thy Servants, that
I may spend the rest of my
life to come, to please thee
and praise thee. Assist me,
dear Father, in this my de-
sire, give me thy continual
aid and assistance from a-
bove, to furnish and fortifie
me and my weakness; and
as by thy Grace thou hast
made me in some mea-
sure willing, so I humbly
be-

Prayers and

befeech thee to make me in full measure able to find, follow, and hold the way that thou hast set before thy Chosen to walk in. And to this end, dear God, let my carnal and corrupt heart be by thy Spirit cleansed, my flinty and stony heart, by the dew of thy Grace, softened, and my ambitious and proud heart by both thoroughly humbled; that it being wholly changed by thee & brought into a Spiritual Temper, and so made the Treasure-house of good things, it may send forth the sweet Fruits of Holiness, to thy Glory, the good example
of

Meditations.

of others, and mine own
endless Comfort in Christ
Jesus. This being wrought
in me, O Lord, of thy meer
mercy and goodness, keep
me still in thy way, I most
humbly beseech thee, that
my desire may be augmen-
ted daily to do thy Will,
and my ability also may
increase daily to fulfil this
desire; then let sorrows and
afflictions both in manner
and measure follow me,
and possess me so long as
thy self wilt, which are in-
deed most plain and profi-
table Teachers to inform
me how vile my self am,
how vain this wretched
and wicked World is, and
that

Prayers and

that the greatest Glory,
and most pleasing Delights
thereof, are meer vanity
and vexation of Spirit.
What availeth it, O Lord,
to be in health of Body, if
a Man have a sick Soul in
him? What profit can
there be to flow in worldly
Wealth, and to want the
treasure of the Soul, which
in the Preaching of the
Word, and the Holy Spirit
of Promise to sanctifie both?
And what is all the Glory
and Reputation in the
world, if a Man want Grace
to seek after the everlast-
ing Glory of the World to
come? Blessed Father, give
me a sound and health-
ful

Meditations.

ful Soul, and let the Body
stand loaded with what
sickness it shall please thee.
Make me to abound in the
Heavenly Treasures, and
however Earthly Treas-
ures fail me, let me be
heartily well content
therein. Lead me along to
seek after the Glory that
is Eternal, and let the fa-
ding Glory of this faithless
World light where it will,
rest with whom it will, and
leave them, and whom it
will. For he that hath all
these without thy Grace
(O God) hath but so ma-
ny burthens to hold him
down from rising up with
Christ, that he may seek
those

Prayers and

those things which are above, and he that hath the Grace of God, though he want all these, hath sufficient. I confess (dear Father) that if thou should'st leave me to my self, and give me over to follow the sway of my sinful heart, I should be as deeply plunged in wickedness as the worst, and become dangerously defiled with those vile and loathsome Sins, wherewith many in the World stand miserably tainted: For naturally (unless thy Grace restrain) I am most prone and ready to give allowance and consent to all evil, but the im-

me-

Meditations.

moderate hearts of youth,
for the most part hinder
the feeling of this, and
careless age doth many
times think of it too late :
So that, in youth man is
ready to flatter himself
with hope of many days,
and therefore thinketh
himself to have time e-
nough to turn from wic-
kedness ; and Age is rea-
dy to defer from day to
day, and make small hast
to amendment. But thy
Word, O LORD, teacheth
Youth to look to it self in
time, both by threatning
and admonition, by threat-
ning, O *Young Man* (saith

L

Solo

Prayers and

Solomon) rejoyce in thy youth,
and let thy heart Cbear thee
in the days of thy youth, and
walk in the ways of thy
heart, and in the sight of
thine Eyes. But what fol-
loweth? Surely youth must
know, that for all these
the most just and mighty
Godwill bring him to Judg-
ment: By admonishing in
these words, Remember thy
maker in the days of thy
youth, whilst the evil days
come not, nor the years ap-
proach wherein thou shalt say,
I have no pleasure in them.
And as a means to bridle
and restrain them, this
rule is set, That a young
man must redress his ways, by
taking

Meditations.

taking heed thereunto according to thy word. And as an encouragement to rouse up old Age to walk religiously, it is said by the same Solomon, Age is a Crown of glory, when it is found in the way of Righteousness. So that if it be found in the ways of wickedness, it is the most hateful spectacle of filthy shame, and more to be loathed and abhorred than the Stains of Iniquity in hot and unbridled youth. And both young and old are taught by thee to know that he that doth unrighteousness is not of thee, and he that is born of thee sinneth not. Therefore,

blo

L 2

Teach

Prayers and

*Teach me (O Lord) to number my days, that I may incline my self to Wisdom. That Wisdom which teacheth us to know thee, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent: That Wisdom which telleth us that we were once Darkness, but are now Light in the Lord, and commandeth us to walk as Children of Light: That wisdom which bid-
deth us to have no fellowship with the unfruitful Works of Darkness, but to reprove them rather: That wisdom which enjoineth us to cast off (concerning the conversation in times past) the
old*

Meditations.

old Man, which is corrupt through the deceivable Lusts, and to put on the new Man, which, after thee, O God, is created in Righteousness and true Holiness. Finally, that wisdom which warneth us to walk circumspectly, not as Fools, but as Wise, redeeming the time, for the days are evil. Furnish me, dear Father, daily more and more, with some good portion of this Wisdom, which may be a Lanthorn to my Feet, and a Light to my Steps, to lead me in the way of Righteousness, and to learn me to use this World as though I used it

Prayers and

not, to fly Lust, to repent
me of Sin, that this old Man
of sin, which I carry about
me, may be crucified with
Christ my Saviour ; that
the body of sin may be de-
stroyed, and henceforth
I may no longer serve sin,
lest when the Night is come
of my evil passed Day, and
Death shall approach to
demand his due, I then
look about me too late, and
be taken napping as the
foolish Virgins were; when
as neither Tears, nor Sighs
nor Cries, will then be heard
but that the just Sentence
of Condemnation will be
given and cannot be revo-
ked, Deliver me, most gra-
cious

Meditations.

cious Father, from this peril, and direct me by thy Grace, to be ever mindful of thine afflicting Hand, that my Soul may be humbled before thee, and reap this comfort from the consideration of mine own wickedness, that it is thy unspeakable mercy that I am not utterly consumed. But thou art my portion, and I will still hope in thee, for thou art always good to them that trust in thee, or to the Soul that seeketh thee Blessed God, let me evermore trust in thee, and let my Soul continually seek after thee, and willingly

Prayers and

and joyfully wait for thy
Salvation, and when it
shall please thee to think it
fit, I humbly beseech thee
to shorten these days of sin,
and speed the delivery of
this my wretched Soul out
of the loathsome Prison of
this my sinful Body, that
with the rest of thy Saints,
it may take possession of
thy heavenly Inheritance
purchased for me and all
the chosen *Israel* of God, by
the death and blood shed-
ding of the immaculate and
unspotted Lamb, Christ
Jesus. To whom with thee,
O Father, and the Holy
Ghost, be all Praise, Power,
Majesty

Meditations.

Majesty and Dominion,
both now and evermore.

Amen.

*A Prayer for the acknow-
ledging of God's Goodness
and Mercy unto us.*

64 **A** Lmighty Saviour,
how gracious hast
thou been to poor afflicted
Souls? To promise them,
that whosoever asketh shall
receive, whosoever seeketh
shall find, and whosoever
knocketh, it shall be o-
pened unto him. Doubt-
less, thou takest a plea-
sure in giving, in accepting
and in opening the gates
of mercy. Behold then!
I do not only acknow-
ledge this goodness to all

L 5

Man-

Prayers and

Mankind, but thy particular Mercy to my self :
And whereas I find, the want even of good desires,
I beseech thee supply me with thy infused Grace,
for I seek my lost self and I seek thee whom I have lost : I find thee in midst of manifold Compassions ; I find my self in the snares of Temptations and Miseries ; I find thee in the Treasure-house of thy Promises ; I find my self in the Dungeon and Prison, house of my Iniquity : I find thee in the Sanctuary of Heaven ; I find my self in the depths of Hell. Behold then, I crave both to
nam 2 I seek

Meditations.

seek my self and thee; my self, as having committed many grievous sins, for which I would fain be directed to the School of Repentance; thee, as having suffered for them, yea, been brought unto death, and a most grievous Passion for my sake: But seeing thou hast in mercy, by thy Promise, made thy self a Debtor unto us, give me leave to challenge the performance, according to thy own appointment. Thou hast told us plainly, at what time soever a sinner doth repent him of his sins, thou wilt blot out his iniquities and put away his transgressions

Prayers and

gressions from thy remembrance. O Lord, I do repent, and am heartily sorry for offending so good a God ; and whereas like a lame Cripple, I cannot follow thee to the Heavenly Harvest, whereby I am worthy to lose my Inheritance, I cannot come to the perfection of Repentance. I fly to thy Grace to supply my defects, and I beseech thee of thy Bounty, by the rich treasure of thy mercies in Christ, to cast down a favourable countenance on me, and make me partaker of all thy Promises. *Amen.*

Meditations.

A Prayer for God's Protection of his Church in respect of the present troubles of it.

65 **A** Almighty God, thou Lord of Hosts and Governour of all things, whose power no Creature is able to resist, to whom it belongeth justly to punish sinners, and to be merciful to them that truly repent; work in us, and in all thy People, unfeigned and effectual Repentance, that what thou seest amiss in us, and amongst us, or in any parts of thy Church, may speedi-

Prayers and

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Prayers and

speedily and thoroughly be reformed, that which is righteous and good in thy sight, may be established and maintained, especially in this our Land, and other places, professing thy Truth and Gospel. And the mean time, while we strive after that which maybe most agreeable to thy holy Will, as it is revealed in thy heavenly Word: Be merciful unto us, and bring us on rather as thou seest it needful, by the Rod of thy Fatherly Correction: Evermore also supporting us, as our most gracious Shepherd (whilst thy true though weak and poor Flock)

Meditations.

Flock) by that Staff of Comfort. And thou Son of *David*, that knowest the merciless condition of Satan, and cruel men his cursed Instruments, we humbly beseech thee never to deliver us over into their power; but save and defend us, and all thy People evermore from the hands of all our Enemies both Bodily and Ghostly; and more particularly at this time we earnestly beseech thee, O Heavenly Father, by the meditation of that thy Son Jesus our only Mediator, to be merciful to those that are gone out from us to joyn with

Prayers and

with us, or stand out for the Truth or any righteous Cause; and give that Issue to the present troubles of thy Church, as may make most for thy Glory, the advancement of thy Truth and Gospel, the relief of all thy distressed People, in all those parts of thy troubled Church; and for the establishing of Truth and Peace in this our Land; May it please thee once to free all our Brethren from the dominion of that Mystery of Iniquity, as also still to shield and secure us and all other professing thy Name and Truth, from that cruel Faction, which as
if

Meditations.

if they delighted in Blood,
have already spoiled so
many Nations: Lord thou
only art the Catholick
King, we can acknowledge
no King over all the Earth
but thy self, nor any uni-
versal Head over all thy
Church, but that only
Archbishop of our Soules,
thy Son Jesus, our blessed
Saviour to whom all pow-
er is given both in Heaven
and Earth. Arise then thou
Lord, to whom the King-
doms belong, and shew
thy self, and let not the
Man of the Earth any lon-
ger exalt himself, lest he be
too proud, and lest he as-
cribe to himself, or to his
gra-

Prayers and

graven Image, or vain Idols, the Conquest that thou shalt see and suffer over thy People. Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but to thy Name be the praise. For the honour of thy Name arise before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasses, before Great Brittain, and other Countries that call upon thy Name: Arise and shew thy self for us, for on thee only do we call; we call on thee to save us and our forces, and thy People now in great danger. How, and in what manner, and at what time fully to declare thy salvation, we refer to thy heavenly

Meditations.

venly Wisdom; only in the mean time that it may please thee to sanctifie and save, to preserve and provide for them and us, and all thine, both in Field, at Sea, and City; protect, defend and deliver them, us, and ours at home and abroad. And thou great Shepherd of *Israel*, be pleased also to take down more the pride of the man of Sin, that hath and would exalt himself against thee. Aswage thou the malice of those who are Enemies to us, or to any of thy People, and evermore confound all their devices, that we being arm'd with thy defence may

Prayers and

may ever more and more
give praise to thee, who
art the only Author of our
Peace, and giver of all Vi-
ctory. And all this good
Lord, for us, for them, for
all thine, not for our me-
rits, but for thy great mer-
cies sake, and for the truths
sake of thy gracious Pro-
mise in Jesus Christ our
Lord and only Advocate
and Redeemer; to whom,
with thee, O Father, and
thy Holy Spirit, be all
Praise and Glory, now and
for evermore. *Amen.*

Meditations.

A Godly Prayer.

66 **O** Merciful Father,
and Lord of Hea-
ven and Earth, we come
before thy presence to
worship thee, in calling
upon thy Name, and in
giving thanks unto thee.
And tho' our duties, and
our very necessity call us
hereunto; yet we confess
our Hearts be so dull and
untoward, that unless thou
be merciful unto us, to
teach us how to pray, we
shall not please thee, nor
profit our selves in these
Duties; we therefore most
humbly beseech thee to
raise

Prayers and

raise up our Hearts with thy good spirit, and so to dispose us to Prayer, that with true fervency of heart, feeling of our wants, humbleness of Mind, and Faith in thy gracious Promises, we may present our Suits acceptably to thee, by our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. And thou, O Father of all Mercies, that hast called us unto thee, hear us, and pity thy poor Servants; we have indeed sinned wonderfully against thee, through blindness of Mind, profaneness of Spirit, hardness of Heart, Self-love, Worldliness, carnal Lust, Hypocrite,

Meditations.

cfise, pride, vanity, un-
thankfulness, infidelity, and
other our native corrupti-
ons, which being bred in us
and with us, have defiled
us even from the Womb,
and unto this day have
broken out, as Plague-Sores
into innumerable Trans-
gressions of thy holy Laws;
the good ways whereof we
have too carelessly, if not
willingly declined from,
and have many times dis-
pleased thee, and offended
our own Consciencs, in
choosing and following
those things which thou
hast most justly, & severely
forbidden us; and besides
all this, we have too long
stood

Prayers and

stood against the gracious means of our Conversion; or at least not stooped and humbled our selves before thee, as we ought, although we have wanted none of those helps; which thou vouchsafest unto thy wandering Children, to fetch them home withal; for we have had (together with thy glorious works) thy word calling upon us without, and thy good spirit within, and have been solicited by promises, by Threatnings, by Blessings, by Chastising, and by Examples of all sorts, and especially by those wonderful deliverances of our selves

Meditations.

selves above any other of
thy Servants, and of our
LAND above any Nation
in the World; and yet our
corrupted spirits cannot
become wise before thee;
to humble themselves and
rightly to acknowledge
thy goodness; we will not
take heed as we ought,
and as thou most justly
dost require, and mayest
expect of us. Wherefore
(O LORD GOD) we do
acknowledgethy patience
to have been infinite and
incorruptible, in that thou
hast been able to hold thy
hands from revenging thy
self on us thus long: and
yet pleasest to hold open

M

the

Prayers and

the door of Grace, that we might come in unto thee and be saved. And now, O blessed Lord God, we are desirous to come unto thee, how wretched soever in our selves; yea, our very Wretchedness sends us unto thee, unto thee with whom the Fatherless, and he that hath no Helper, the Sinner also, and he that hath no merit, finds Mercy and Grace. But we come to thee in thy Son's Name not daring to come in our own, in his Name that came for us, we come to thee, in his mediation whom thou hast sent, in him (O Father) in whom

Meditations.

whom thou hast professed
thy self to be well-pleased,
we come unto thee; and do
most humbly beseech thee
to pity us, and to save us
for thy mercy sake in him.
O LORD our GOD, our
sins have not out-bidden
that blood of thy holy Son,
which speaks for our Par-
don; nor can any be so
infinite as thou art in thy
Mercies. And our hearts (O
God thou seek) are desirous
to have peace with thee?
and war with our Lusts, &
wish that they could melt
before thee, and be dissol-
ved into Godly mourning
for all that filth that
hath gone through them

Prayers and

and defiled them: And our desires are now to serve & please thee, and our purposes to endeavour it more faithfully. We pray thee therefore, for the Lord Jesus sake, to seal up in our Consciences thy gracious pardon for all our sins past, and give us to feel the consolation of thy Grace shed abroad in our hearts for our eternal Comfort & Salvation. And that we may know this perswasion to be of thy Spirit, and not of carnal presumption. (Blessed God) let those Graces of thy Spirit, which do accompany Salvation, be poured out more plentifully

Meditations.

tifully upon us: Increase in us all Godly Knowledge, Faith, Patience, Temperance, Meekness, Wisdom, Godliness, love of thy Word with Saints and Servants, a zeal for thy Glory: give us Judgment to discern the difference of good and ill, and also of things present which are temporary, and things to come which are Eternal.

Make us yet at the last wise hearted to lay up our Treasure in Heaven; and to set our affections more upon things which are above, where Christ sits at thy right hand. And let all the vain and transi-

Prayers and

tory inticements of this
poor Life appear unto us
as they are, that our hearts
may be no more intangled
& bewitched with the love
of them, O Lord God our
GOD, who hast dearly
bought us to thy own self,
give us so honest hearts as
may be glad to yield thee
possession in thine own; &
be thou so gracious as yet
to make them up, tho'
we have desperately held
thee out of them in times
past, & be pleased to dwell
in us, and in our Land, and
reign in us, & among us by
thy holy Word, & power-
ful Spirit, that we may be
sure to reign with thee in
thy

Meditations.

thy glorious Kingdom, according to thy Promise in thy Word, thro' him that hath purchased that Inheritance for all that trust in him ; and seeing thou dost so promise these graces and mercies to us, as that thou requirest our Industry and diligence in the use of such means as serve there-to, good Lord : Let us not so cross our Prayer for Grace, as not to seek that by diligence, which we make shew to seek by Prayer, lest our own ways condemn us of Hypocrisie. Stir us up therefore (O Lord) to the frequent use of Prayer, to the often and

Prayers and

serious reading, hearing,
and meditating of thy holy
Word; teach us to profit
by the conversation of thy
People, & to be profitable
in our own. Make us wise
to apprehend all oppor-
tunities of doing or re-
ceiving spiritual Good:
Strengthen us with Grace
to observe our hearts and
Ways, to retain them in
good order, or to reduce
them quickly. Let us ne-
ver think any Company so
good as thine, or any time
so well spent, as that which
is in thy Service, and in
beautifying of thine Image
in our selves or others.
Particularly, we pray thee
open

Meditations.

open our Eyes to see our own natural infirmities, and to discover the Advantages which Satan gets thereby. And give us care to strive most when we are most assaulted, and endamaged. And thou, O God, that hast promised to bless thy own Ordinances, bless all things unto us, that we may thereby grow in Grace, and in Knowledge, Faith, Love, and all heavenly Virtues, and so may shine as Lights in this dark World, giving good example to all men, and may at the end of our Race rest and lie down in the peace of a good Conscience

M 5 embalm'd

Prayers and

embalm'd with a good report, and may leave thy blessings entailed unto ours after us for an Inheritance. These, O Father, are our special Suits, wherein we besec'h thee to set forth the wonderful riches of thy Graces towards us for Christ Jesus sake, and as for this Life, and the things thereof, we crave them of thee, so far as many be for our good, and thy Glory, beseeching thee to provide for us and unto this day, in mercy. And when thou wilt humble or exalt us, govern us so long and so far in all Conditions and Changes, as we may cleave fast unto thee

Meditations.

thee our God, unchangeable, rejoycing in thee and thy unchangeable love above all things, esteeming thee our portion and sufficient inheritance for evermore.

Now what Grace we crave for our selves (which are here before thy Presence) we humbly beg for all those that any way belong unto us, and that by duty or promise we owe our prayers unto, beseeching thee to be as gracious unto them, as to our own Souls, and especially to such of them as in respect of any present Affliction or Temptation, may be in special need

Prayers and

need of some more speedy help and comfort from thy mighty Hand. Yea, our Lord God, we humbly desire thee to bless with our prayers thy whole Church; but more especially this Nation, and therein the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, our Sovereign Lady, (Queen *ANNE*;) also all that be in Authority among us; beseeching thee to follow her and all of them, with those Blessings of thy Protection and Direction which may preserve them safe from the malice of the World, and of Satan, and may make them in their great places faithful to thee,
for

Meditations.

for the Good of thy Church
and People, and their own
eternal happiness and ho-
nour, Lord look merciful-
ly on those in the Church,
that are under the Cross.
And we beseech thee to
furnish all Churches, espe-
cially in this LAND, with
faithful and fruitful Mini-
sters, and to bless their
lives and labours for those
merciful ends and rules to
which thou hast ordained
them. Sanctifie thy Peo-
ple, O God, and let them
not deceive themselves
with formality of Religion
instead of the Power there-
of; give them Grace to
profit both by thy Fa-
vours

Prayers and

vours, and by those Chastisements which thou hast sent, either in particular, or in general, successively, or mixed among them, or upon them. And Lord, suppress that rage of sin and prophaness in all Christian States, which breeds so much Apostacy and Defection, threatening the taking away of this Light from them. Confound, O God, all the Counsels and practices of Satan and his Ministers, which are, or shall be taken up against thee and thy Kingdom of thy dear Son. Call in the dispersed *Jews*, and make up the fulness of the *Gentiles*,

Meditations.

• *titles, that thy Name may
• be glorious in all the world,
the days of iniquity may
come to an end, and we,
with all thine Elect People,
may come to see thy Face
in Glory, and be filled with
the Light thereof for ever-
more.*

*Grant these our humble
Petitions, good Father, for
Christ Jesus thy dear Son,
our blessed Saviour's sake:
To whom, with thee, and
thy holy Spirit, be all glory
and praise now and for ever.
Amen.*

Prayers and

*A Prayer to be used on the
30th. of January, being
the day of the Martyrdom
of King Charles the First.*

67 **O** Most mighty God,
terrible in thy
Judgments, and wonderful
in thy doings towards the
Children of Men, who in
thy heavy displeasure didst
suffer the Life of our late
gracious Sovereign to be
this day taken away by
wicked hands; we, thy un-
worthy Servants, humbly
confess, that the Sins of this
Nation have been the cause
which hath brought this
heavy

A Miracle of Mercy to us who have escaped the two dreadful years of Pestilence, 1625. and 1665.
with Prayers, and Thanksgivings; pertinent to such sad times which God of his infinite Mercy
deliver us from; and for a Remembrance, I have here inserted the true number that died in
the City of London, and the Liberties thereof, in the said Year, viz.

From the 17th of December 1624. to the 15th of December 1625. died of all Diseases
63001. of the Plague 41313. whereof in one Week, August 18th. 1625. of all Diseases
2505. of the Plague 4463.

From the 20 of December 1664. to the 19th of December, 1665. died of all Diseases
97306. of the Plague 68596. whereof in one Week, Septemb. 19. 1665. of all Diseases
8297. of the Plague 4463.



fals

mercy seat

Thanks

Miracle of mercy:

Meditations.

- heavy Judgment upon us
But, O gracious God, when
thou makest inquisition for
Blood, lay not the guilt of
this innocent Blood (the
shedding whereof nothing
but the Blood of thy Son
can expiate) lay it not
to the charge of the Peo-
ple of this Land, nor let
it ever be required of us,
or our Posterity. Be mer-
ciful, be merciful unto thy
People, whom thou hast
redeemed, and be not an-
gry with us for ever; but
pardon us for thy Mercies
sake, through the Merits of
thy Son, our Lord Jesus
Christ. *Amen.*

Prayers and

*A Prayer to be used upon
the 29th. of May, being
the Day of his Majesty's
Birth, and happy Return
to his Kingdoms.*

68 **O** God, who by thy
Divine Providence
and Goodness didst this
day first bring into the
World, and didst this day
also bring back and restore
to us, and to his own just
and undoubted Rights, our
most gracious Sovereign
Lord, thy Servant King
Charles; Preserve his Life,
and Establish his Throne
we beseech thee: Be unto
him

Meditations.

him a helmet of Salvation
against the face of his Ene-
mies, and a strong Tower
of defence in the time of
Trouble. Let his Reign be
prosperous, and his days
many. Let Justice, Truth,
and Holiness; let Peace,
and Love, and all Chri-
stian Virtues flourish in his
time. Let his People serve
him with honour and obe-
dience; and let him so
duly serve thee on Earth,
that he may hereafter
everlastingly reign with
thee in Heaven; through
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Prayers and

*A devout Prayer against the
Plague, in the time of
Common Visitation.*

69 **A** Lmighty God, our
Heavenly Father,
whose Judgments are most
severe and terrible against
obstinate Offenders; but
thy mercies infinite to all
that with hearty Repen-
tance and true Faith turn
unto thee: We, the sinful
people of this Land, whom
for our Iniquities, and ma-
nifold Transgressions, thou
hast in many places most
justly visited with the noy-
some

Meditations.

some Plague & Pestilence,
come now before the
throne of thy Grace in the
Name of thy dear Son, in
whom thou art well plea-
sed: And in confidence of
that Attonement which he
hath made for us, most
humbly beseech thee to
pardon and forgive us all
our sins in thought, word,
or deed, committed against
thy Divine Majesty; to
work in us daily more and
more, a true, hearty, and
unfeigned Sorrow, and Re-
pentance for the same; to
plant in our hearts a sin-
cere and settled Resolution
by the assistance of thy
Grace, to lead the rest of
our

Prayers and

our Lives in careful Obedience to thy holy Will in all things, and so to remove from us this Plague, and grievous Sicknes, that we be not utterly consum'd by means of thy heavy hand; To this end grant us, good Lord, of thy Grace and Mercy, all things conducing hereunto; seasonable Weather, and good Air, and wholesome Food, and powerful Medicines, and what ever else thou seest to be good and profitable for us; together with a due Care and Conscience in using of the same, that we neither presume, nor tempt thy Majesty
by

Meditations.

by neglecting the means which thou hast appointed, nor yet despair of thy blessings in the diligent use of them, nor in any event repine or murmur at thy Providence, what portion soever it allots us ; but that submitting our selves to thy good pleasure in all things, we may commit the keeping of our Souls to thee in well-doing, as unto a faithful Creator, with compassionate pity ; and Charity (as we are told) succouring the sick, and preserving the whole, and praying fervently for all ; and finally, that depending entirely upon thy goodness,

Prayers and

ness, we may wait the hour
of thy gracious Delive-
rance in Faith, and Hope,
and constant Patience, with
perfect resignation to thy
wise and just Appointment
in all things, to the which
we betake our selves and
the whole Nation, and
whatsoever concerns us.
Be merciful unto us, O God
be merciful unto us, for
our Souls trust only in thee,
and under the shadow of
thy Wings shall be our Re-
fuge, till this Calamity be
overpast; which we be-
seech thee speedily to re-
move, if it be thy Will.
O Lord God of Mercies,
and Father of Compassi-
ons,

Meditations.

ons, I beseech thee, let
the Voice of Joy and Health
once more into our dwell-
lings, for the alone Me-
rits sake of thy dear Son
Jesus Christ, our only Me-
diator and Advocate. *Amen.*

*A special Remedy for a sick
Soul, whereby the Sinner
may recover himself from
the Valley of Tears to the
Hill of Joy: Or, a Me-
ditation for the Plague;*

70 **F**ast, Fast and Pray,
& then take a course
of Repentance of Nineve,
and put in two handfuls
of Faith in the Blood of
N Christ,

Prayers and

Christ, with as much hope
and charity as you can get,
and put it into a Vessel of
a clean Conscience ; then
boyl it on the Fire of Love
so long, till you see by the
Eyes of Faith, the black
Foam of the Love of this
World to stick in your sto-
mack ; then scum it off
clean with the Spoon of
faithful Prayer. When this
is done, put in the Powder
of Patience, and take the
Cloth of Christs Innocency,
and strain all together in
his Cup ; then drink it bur-
ning hot next to thy hearr,
and cover thee warm, with
as many cloaths of amend-
ment of Life, as God shall
strengthen

Meditations.

strengthen and enable thee to bear, that thou mayest sweat out all the Poyson of Covetousness, Pride, Whoredom, Idolatry, Usury, Swearing, Lying, with such like. And when thou feel'st thy self alter'd from the fore-named Vices, take the Powder, of Say-well, and put upon thy Tongue, but drink thrice as much Do-well daily. Then Take the Oyl of Good-works, and anoint therewith the Eyes, Ears, Heart, and Hands, that they may be steady and nimble to minister to the poor members of Christ. When this is done, then in

N 2 God's

Prayers and

God's Name arise from sin
willingly, read the Bible
daily, take up the Cross of
Christ bodily, and stand to
it manfully, bear all Visi-
tations patiently, Pray
continually, rest thankful-
ly, and thou shalt live
everlastingly, and come
to the Hill of Joy quick-
ly. To which place hasten
thou, good Lord; speedily.

Then Take the Oyl of
Good-works, and anoint
thereunto the Eyes, Ears,
Nose, and Throat, that
they may be ready and
nimble to minister to the
poor members of Christ.
When this is done, then in
God's

*The Prayer of King Edward
the Sixth.*

7¹ **L**ORD God, deliver
me out of this mis-
erable and wretched life, &
take me among thy chosen;
howbeit, not my will, but
thy Will be done. Lord I
commit my Spirit to thee :
O Lord, thou knowest how
happy it were for me to be
with thee ; yet for thy cho-
sen's sake send me Life and
Health, that I may truly
serve thee, O my Lord
God, bless thy People, and
save thine Inheritance.

Prayers and

O Lord God, save thy
chosen People of *England*.
O my Lord God, defend
this Realm from Papistry,
and maintain thy true Re-
ligion, that I and my Peo-
ple may Praise thy Holy
Name. *Amen.*

*A Prayer to be used upon the
2d. 3d. and 4th. of Sep-
tember, being the days
that the greatest part of
the City of London was
Consumed by Fire.*

72 **L**ook down O Lord,
in the bowels of
thy mercy, upon the sor-
rows and distresses of thy
Ser-





S
J
E
f

Meditations.

Servants, who in the deepest sense of thy amazing Judgments, and our own manifold provocations, lie prostrate in the Dust before thee.

To thee, O God, holy and true, belong mercy and forgiveness; but unto us confusion of Face, as it is this day: For we are that incorrigible Nation who have resisted thy Judgments, and abused thy Mercies, we have despised the Chastisements of the Lord, and turned his Grace into wantonness.

What shall we then say unto thee, O thou Pre-

N 4

server

Prayers and

server of men? Thou hast found out the Iniquity of thy Servants, and discovered our nakedness and pollution, in a vengeance suited and answerable to grievous crying Sins. Our Pride, Oppression, and fullness of Bread, hath made us like to *Sodom*, and thou hast afflicted us as *Gomorrab*. We should not be reclaimed by thy Exemplary Punishments upon others, or our selves, and thou hast made us a terror and Astonishment to all that are round about us.

And now, O Lord, thou art most just in all that is come upon us; for thou
hast

Meditations.

hast done right, but we have done very wickedly, yet behold we are all thy People, tho' an unthankful and rebellious People; suffer us therefore to employ the pity, and the founding of thy Bowels, and for thy Names sake, for thy Mercies sake, for Christ Jesus sake, encline thine Ear to us, and save us.

Above all, we beseech thee abandon us not to our selves, but by what method soever it shall please thee to reduce us, tho' to this bitter Cup of trembling thou shalt add more and more grievous afflictions,

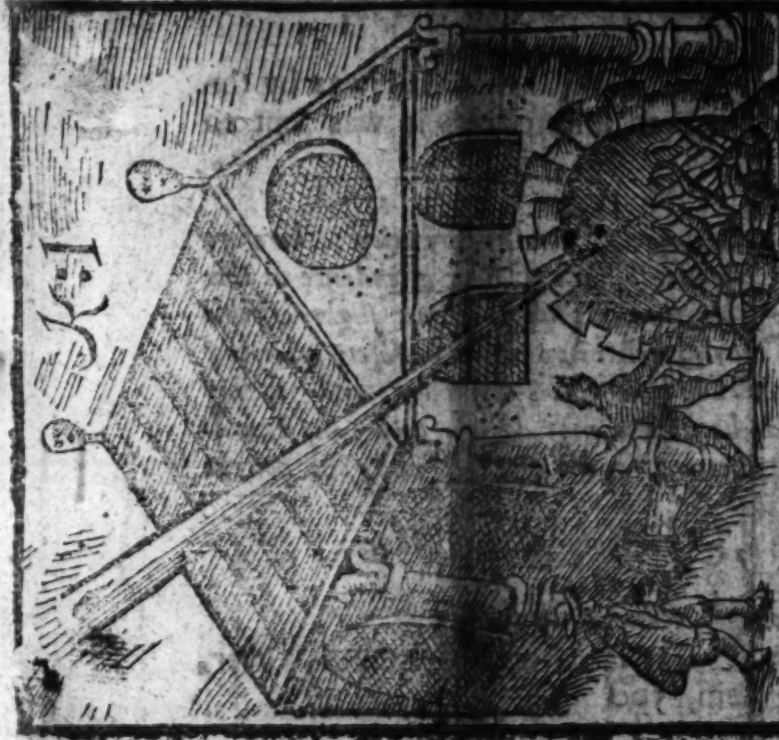
N 5

by

by any the severest
course, subdue us unto
thy self, and make us see
the things belonging to
our Peace before they be
hid from our Eyes, that
being duly humbled under
thy mighty Hand, we may
be capable of being relie-
ved and exalted in thy due
time, through Christ our
Lord. Amen.



FINIS.



The wonderfull surprance: 1604

*A Discovery of our wonderful Deliverance from the belch and horrible Powder-Treason,
the Fifth of November, 1605.*

The manner of finding out this horrible Treason (by the great goodness of God) was by the mystical sense of a Letter, which (for Memory to Posterity) is here inserted, as it was sent to the Lord Mounteagle.

MY Lord, out of the Love I bear to some of your Friends, I have a care of your Preservation: therefore I would advise you as you tender your life, to devise some excuse to shift of your attendance at this place. For God and Man have conspired to punish the wickedness of this time: And look not slight of this advertisement, but retire your self into your Country, where you may expect the event with safety; for tho' there be no appearance of any stir, yet I say, they shall receive a terrible blow this Parliament, and yet they shall not see who blurt them: This counsel is not to be scorned, because it may do you good, and can do you no harm, for the danger is past as soon as you have burnt the Letter; and I hope God will give you the grace to make good use of it, to whose holy protection I commend you.

The Traytors Names.	{	Edward Elgy, Knight	Robert Winter, Esq;	Christopher Wright, Gent.
		Robert Cansby, Esquire	Thomas Percy, Gent.	John Grant, Gent.
		Ambrose Focwood, Esq;	Thomas Winter, Gent.	Robert Keys, Gent.
		Francis Tresham, Esq.	John Wright, Gent.	Guy Faulx and others, Catesby's Mer.
		Barrels o Powder 36.	Faggots to cover them, 500.	The Bells, 1900.



Thankful
REMEMBRANCES
OF

God's Wonderful
DELIVERANCES
Of this

LAND.

Psalm. 72. 18.

Blessed be the Lord God,
even the God of Israel,
which only doth wonder-
ful things.

Psalm. 51. 15.

O Lord open thou my Lips
and my Mouth shall shew
forth thy Praise.

Printed for C. Brome. 1708

REMEMBRANCE

OF

God's Wonderful

DELIVERANCE

Of this

LAND.



Blasphemy
even the God of Israel
and his holy angels
and his saints

Psalm 71. 12.
O Lord open thou my lips
and my mouth shall praise
Thee for ever

Printed by C. Brown 1792

Thankful
REMEMBRANCES
OF
God's Wonderful
DELIVERANCES
Of this
LAND.

A Thanksgiving for our deliverance from the unmatched Gun - powder Treason, 1605.

O Lord God, the great Deliverer and Defender of those which always seek and trust

Thankful

trust in thee ; accept, we
humbly beseech thee, this
our poor, but hearty
Thanksgiving for thy gra-
cious Providence over us,
and our wonderful deli-
verances. We acknowledge
if thou hast dealt in Ju-
stice according to our long
and grievous provocations
thou mightest have cut off
Branch and Root in one
day, blown up King and
Kingdome at one clap.
Nay, if, notwithstanding
our Presumptions against
thee, thy wonderful Pro-
tection had not been over
us, there had not been left
us a Being : For our Ene-
mies had undermined us,
they

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Remembrances.

they had digged in the deep as if they would have made a Covenant with Hell and the Pit for our utter destruction. They had made strong Combination, and though their Counsel was against the Lord and his Anointed, yet had they bound the Assurance and Secresie of it with the Sacrament of the Lord; so there Consultations were hid and covered in darkness, and it was a Plot past Mans finding out. But thine eyes O Lord, didst see their Villany, and thine ears did hear the Cry, not of us, who knew nothing but of our Extremities,

Thankful

mities, which thou hadst
pity on; for thou brokest
the bounds of the ungod-
ly, and didst frustrate the
Counsel of thine Enemies,
and didst enough to make
them see that there is no
counsel against thee, or thy
People which fear thee,
and call upon thy Name.
Thou deliveredst even us,
our King, our Queen, our
Prince, our Nobles, and
our whole State of all de-
grees to be assembled in
Parliament at that hour,
from the Power of dark-
ness, and from the Fiery
Furnace, which was pre-
pared for us not to make
Brick, but either Brick or
nothing

Remembrances

nothing of us. How did we then see, what we have often heard out of thy holy Word? That before they cry, thou wilt hear, and while they yet speak, thou wilt help. O how nigh art thou to them that call on thee, even to all such as call on thee in Truth! Surely thou wilt hear their cry, and wilt help them. *Lord what is man that thou art mindful of him, or the Son of man that thou so regardest him? What is this little part of the World, that thou shouldest set thine eyes of Providence on it so, as to shew thy self a Watchman for us*
that

Thankful

that never sleepeth, and whose care of us cannot be either corrupted by the wicked and wealthy Men of the Earth, or frustrate by the deep and crafty Friends of Hell? What, O Lord, was the zeal of those Saint makers, that they would have sent up at once such a company to Heaven, in fiery Chariots; No, no, the Lord was not in the fire that set them on work, nor would they be in those fiery Works, O what a desolation and misery had fallen upon us, if thou hadst not been on our side, when Men rose up against us! They had
swal-

Remembrances.

swallowed us up quick;
when they were so wroth-
fully displeased at us : Yea,
if thou hadst not been on
our side, not only the li-
ving had been swallowed
up, but the noise of that
blow would even have
raised the dead, raised the
foundations of the Earth,
and rent in sunder those
everlasting Monuments :
our Laws and Statues had
been turned to dust, our
whole Land into misery
and utter desolation, we
had (as we had too justly
deserved) been scarce left
as *Sodom*, we had been
made like unto *Gomorrha*,
Zim, and *Obim*, had dwelt
in

Thankful

in our Houses, Superstition had regard in our Church, and Treason had reigned in our Land; but it pleased thy controuling Wisdom so to bring it about, that the Deceiver should be deceived, the Greedy devoured, and the same Pit which the Malicious digged, themselves should fall into it. For as by Powder they intended to blow it up, so didst thou first amaze them with a blast, and by it were some of them sent to their long Home from their own Houses, while they were hatching this mischief for us; as they
made

Remembrances.

made Wood a colour to
hide their malice under,
so some perished by the
Tree.

The Instruments, as
Powder, Wood, and Fire,
which they prepared for
our Destruction, by the
same means were they de-
stroyed. Now as thou hast
often made bare thy Holy
Arm, and we still find it
stretched out for our won-
derful deliverance, so do
thou make it a means,
good Lord, that all our
Neighbours, yea, that all
the World may see that
thou art our Saviour, and
with us learn to put their
trust in thee, and that their
de-

Thankful

destruction may be a warning to the rest of that viperous brood, speedily to leave their damnable ways lest they follow their destruction. But it is we that are escaped as a Bird out of the Snare of the Fowler, the Snare is broken and we are delivered. For which so gracious & wonderful deliverance of that Fifth of *November*, 1605. let us and our Posterity after us, with Bonfires, Trumpets, Shawms, and Psalms, laud and praise thy holy Name, on the Fifth of *November* yearly for ever: and let us not only keep one day yearly in
our

Remembrances.

our publick Congregations
to praise thy great and
glorious Name; but let us
all, which at least as yet
live by that preservation,
be never forgetful, pri-
vately to acknowledge be-
fore thee, and unto thee,
that thou art the Almight-
ty, and never failing Sa-
viour of all that put their
trust in thee, and let those
that come after us, praise
thee for us, from Genera-
tion to Generation, for e-
ver and ever. *Amen.*

A

Thankful



A Thanksgiving for our deliverance from the Spanish Invasion in 1588.

74 **O** LORD our God,
how glorious and
excellent is thy Name?
whose Strength and Pow-
er extends to the utmost
parts of the Earth;
and whose wonders are
wrought upon the Seas,
and Miracles upon the dry
Land; at whose anger the
Heavens fly, the Earth dis-
solves; and the Seas make
a noise; Who dost com-
mand the raging Tempests
and

Remembrances.

and stillest the blustering
Winds, making them the
Instruments to fight a-
gainst the Enemies, and to
be helpers of thy Servants;
who by the watery Ele-
ments shew'dst thy Power
& declarest thy strength
when we were beset with
fear, our Beacons burning,
our Soldiers marching,
our Counties mustering,
our Armies incamping,
our Ships preparing; when
we were even faint with
sorrow, and fear over-ran
the Land, when our Ene-
mies Gallies, Galliasles,
and Ships came with full
sail for to assail us with
their murdering Pieces,
O and

Thankful

and more murdering purposes for to destroy us by whole multitudes; they brought their Whips to scourge us, their Seals to mark us out for Slavery; their invincible Navy had hemmed us in: But when they swelled in their pride, and grew confident in their arm of flesh, when they had even set sight upon our Land, and counted all their odds, then even when they were in Expectation presently to take our Land from us, and in assurance of presumption to slay our strong Men, and torture our young Men, to ravish

Remembrances.

ravish our Wives, and to
deflour our Virgins, to
triumph over all, and to
tyrannize and glut them-
selves with our Blood;
when they thought all
their own, their Ships at
Anchor, their Navy being
grapled and conjoynd in
one for our utter destru-
ction; Then, O Lord God
our heavenly Father, it
pleased thee to look
down from thy glorious
Throne, on us miserable
Wretches, and to remem-
ber the glory of thy Name,
called on amongst us; and
therefore at that instant
to put such courage into
the heart of our ever re-
O 2 nowned

Thankful

howned *Elizabeth*, that
Kingly Queen, as in Per-
son to go forth to view
her Royal Army, and to
encourage her Souldiers,
which then attended the
Enemies approaches. And
then (O Lord) when we
could make our selves
strong only by Prayer to
thee, and cryed and called
for thy help and succour:
then it pleased thee to
give Valour to our Cap-
tains to give wit and un-
derstanding for good Pro-
jects and worthy Inven-
tions; yea to make the
Winds, the Fire, and the
Air, with the Waves and
Waters & all to be on our
sides,

Remembrances.

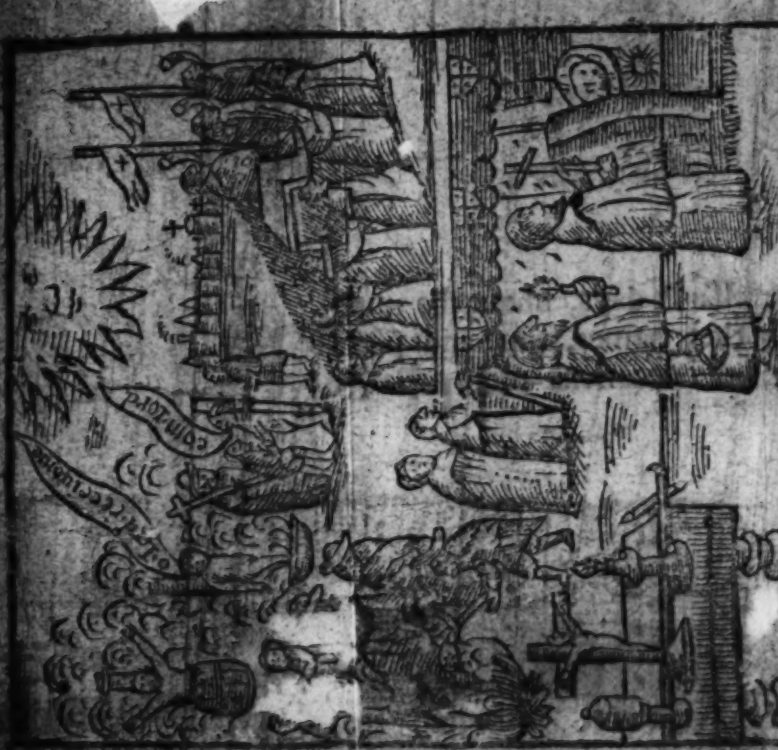
sides, and to fight the Battel for us thy poor unworthy Servants, and then by thy gracious Providence thou didst put fear in our Enemies hearts; and the better to cause that we might know it to be thy doing, even at Midnight, when we could not see to fight, thou sentest a gale of Wind to carry a Flame of Fire for us to get Victory upon the Water against our Enemies: For the which most happy Victory desirous to shew our thankfulness to thee (O Lord of Hosts) as then we had our Enemies Banners displayed in the chiefeſt

O 3 preach-

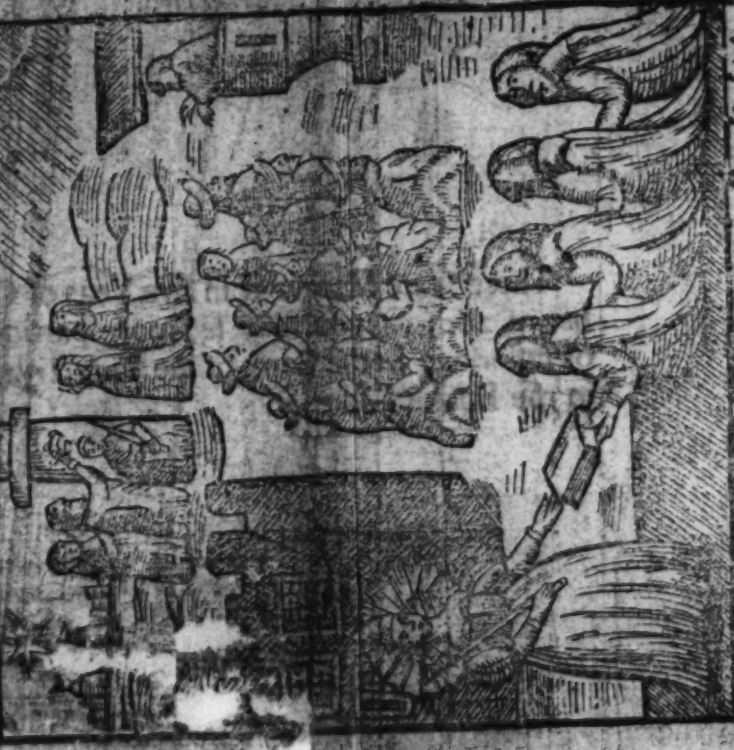
Thankful

preaching place of this
Land; & sung an Heavenly
Hallelujah of praise to the
Glory of thy Name in all
our publick Assemblies; so
every one for our own par-
ticulars are ever bound to
have in mind, how upon
the seventh of *Aug.* 1588.
thou wrought'st that great
deliverance of this Land
from that proud Navy of
the cruel *Spaniards*, and to
bless and praise thy glo-
rious Name from one Ge-
neration to another, both
now and for ever. *Amen.*

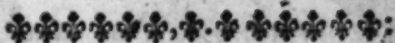
There were Martyred in five Yeas of Queen *Mary's* days, about the number of 260, as you may see more particularly their names, time and place of suffering, in the Book of the *Ferry Tryal*, and the occasions more at large in the Book of *Martyrs*.



One night of popish superstition



The Returne of the Gofellers light



A Thanksgiving for the deliverance of this Land from popish Superstition and Tyranny.

75 **O** Lord God, we do acknowledge that we come late with our Sacrifices, so that we deserve, that thou shouldest have no respect either to them or us. For until we are stricken with some fear of more danger, we scarce do in particular bethink our selves, nor then as we ought, for former deliverances: Fear of more Plots make us a little to remember the Powder-Plot, and noise of new and greater

Thankful

preparation to War and destruction, have forced us to recount that most savage Massacre of the People of this Land, intended by that *Spanish Armado*, and so are we desirous now to insinuate with thee, O Almighty God, for new favours, by striving more particularly, every man some way to remember and acknowledge thy former mercies: and yet there was a deliverance beyond these already mentioned; from the Tyranny of Popish Superstition and Idolatry, of which we have not yet thought, or at least not yet

Remembrances.

yet in this our special
thanksgiving acknowledged. For in the Year 1605,
had not the Lord been on
our side, when Men rose
up against us, they had
then swallowed us up
quick; when their wroth
was inflamed, and the Fire
almost kindled; yet that
Fire had not reached our
Bodies, and thou (O God)
couldst have delivered us
in that Fire as thou didst
the three Children, that it
should not so much as
have scorch'd our cloaths;
yea, thou didst so deliver
us, and more, when as the
Actors themselves were
licked up with the flames

O S

of

Thankful

of their own Fire: But there was a Fire that struck at our Souls, not only the feigned burning Fire of Purgatory, but the Fire of Spiritual Whoredom and *Romish* Idolatry, that would even have reached and over-reached our Souls; the fury thereof would have drunk up our Spirit; yea, all the true pious Graces of thy good Spirit in us. In his deliverance in the year 1588, the Waves, yea the proud Waves, although they threatned horribly, yet could they but have drowned our Bodies: But in the time of Popery there were

Remembrances.

were proud Waves, that
did, and would still have
gone over our Souls, yea,
those proud Waves of blind
Superstition and popish
Tyranny would have gone
over our Souls. What
Thanks can we render un-
to thee (O God) that didst
not still give us over as a
prey into those Teeth,
whereby Death and Hell
would have gnawn upon
us, and never consumed
us? Praised be thy Name,
O Lord, who didst then
save some of our Fore-fa-
thers by plucking them as
brands out of that Fire, as
Lot out of *Sodom*, thou
didst save them from that
Spiritual

Thankful

Spiritual Deluge, as Noab
and his Sons from the
drowning of the whole
World: Praised be thy
Name for them. But what
praise can we yield unto
thee O Lord, sufficient for
our selves, to whom thou
hast continued this Rescue
now more than from one
Generation to another,
and still continuest it? Our
best Thanks, O Lord, are less
than the least of thy other
Mercies in delivering us
from temporal Dangers.
Then loe hear a Reason,
Lord why have we been
so long, and must be still
as good as mute and still,
in this great deliverance
from

Remembrances.

from the eternal ruin of our Souls, because we can never sufficiently praise thee for those favours of Eternity, till we come to Eternity, there to praise thee for ever and ever : Yet in the mean time, O Lord, we desire to acknowledge the Glory of thy Grace ; And we may be able to conceive and consider it.

The *Marian* days of Persecution were fierce and cruel ; in them thou didst hide thy Face from thy Church in this Land ; But it was but for a moment in comparison of the Mercy which followed

Thankful

in the days of blessed *Elizabeth*, that great Instrument of thy Glory, and our good. The People did then hide themselves in their Chambers, nay, in the Dens and Caves of the Earth, with the old Saints. But it was but for a very little time in respect of the time, wherein thou hast enlarged us, and brought us forth into the gracious Liberty of the Sons of God; when thou didst bring her from the Prison to the Palace, and not only as *Joseph*, to be a Prince in *Egypt*, but to be a Queen of thine own peculiar People, when thou didst
bring

Remembrances.

bring back her captivity
and ours, as the Rivers in
the South; then was this
our Church as in a dream,
and when we saw it was
truth, then were our
Mouths filled with Laugh-
ter, and our Tongues with
Joy. And though the *Mi-
chael's* of *Saul's* House may
deride and scoff at thole
devout Exaltations, and
divine Raptures of thy Ser-
vants, yet let us with holy
David be content to be
more vile in their sight
while thou shalt please to
continue their burthen;
and that our Songs, which
we make to thee in our
own Land, and our Rejoy-
cings

Thankful

things in thee, may prove more burthenſome to them: And good Lord, do not thou ever ſuffer our thankfulneſs to fall ſo low, as to make thee cut off thy loving-kindneſs in diſpleaſure, or our ſinfulneſs to grow ſo high as to damp the light of thy Goſpel amongſt us, or to cauſe thy hand to remove our Candleſtick, but make it firm, O Lord, by thy power, and enlarge the light thereof into all the Congregations of this Kingdom. Let it alſo break into their houſes that ſhut their doors, and into their hearts that ſhut their eyes
againſt

Remembrances.

against it, And for the better promoting hereof, as thou didst bless that Patriarch of the Church great *James*, our late dread Sovereign, as the Man of thy right-hand, and didst send him amongst us to continue the Light of thy Gospel, from the days of that Famous *Elizabeth* till now ; so we beseech thee moreover, to bless his Son our gracious Sovereign of happy being, that he may defend us in the same until his Death : Bless also the Heir of his Crown, Prince *Charles*, and at the last commend it to those that come after, in no less, but rather
rather

Thankful

rather greater lustre. Good
Lord make this his only
Son as thy Son, and as thy
pleasant Child, that he may
take delight in thee, and in
the remembrance of thy
great and holy Name. Let
thy Name be to him as a
strong Tower, to which he
may always resort, O gra-
cious Lord God, do thou so
establish the King's Throne
& his Posterities in Truth
and Judgment, that they
may not only be constant
in the professing, but strong
in promoting of thy Truth
for defence of thy Faith,
and the maintenance of all
just and righteous Causes,
so shall thy Glory be great
in

Remembrances.

in their Salvation, and
our Salvation great by
that glory of thy Grace,
which by them thou shew-
est us. And so shall we,
and ours after us, offer
Sacrifices of praise and
thankfulness to thy glori-
ous Name, from Genera-
tion to Generation, for
evermore. *Amen.*

Thankful

A Thanksgiving for the miraculous stay of the Plague, and our gracious preservation from it, 1625.

76 **O** Father of Mercy,
and God of all
Consolation, our only hope
and succour, which art still
(as ever) our help in time
of need, our refuge at all
times; Upon the bended
knees of our Souls we give
thee most hearty thanks for
all thy unspeakable blessings
with which thou hast
continually preserved us,
and for thy gracious Providence
over us unto this
day. Let us remember before

Remembrances.

fore thee the times of our
distractions, when with
frighted horror we did run
and fly for our lives in the
sight of Death, and thy de-
stroying Angel, which thou
hadst set with his drawn
Sword in the midst of our
great City, & in divers parts
of this Land; yet as we fled,
knowing we could not fly
from thee, & finding our sins
hang fast on us, we looked
every hour to fall into the
Pit, or to be reached by the
hand, Heaven indeed stood
open to receive the Godly;
and happy they that went
thither; but Hell gaped al-
so to receive the Wicked
and Ungodly, and woe to
them

Thankful

them for ever. The Bells
were still tolling to call
some or other to their last
home, & our hearts always
trembling for fear of our
selves, or our eyes weeping
for loss of our Friends:
wheresoever we went, at
home or abroad, griefs and
lamentations were our
Companions, sighs & sobs
our Comforters, whilst woe
and misery were our daily
Objects. The dross of this
World was then worth
nought; we would have gi-
ven all that we had, so we
might have bribed Death,
& taken any condition for
longer Life: But no Man
might ransom himself, or
re-

Remembrances.

redeem his Brother. The
raging Pestilence took a-
way the rich with the poor,
the young with the aged, &
leaving our houses desolate
did fill our Sepulchers with
the Dead. But now when
thine Angry Countenance
had a while been bent a-
gainst us to make us look
back upon our selves, and
we were almost past hopes;
when in our judgment the
flying sickness was most
likely to scatter further in-
to all parts of the Land,
then when we were in the
midst of this misery, thou re-
membredst thy mercy, then
thou of thy great goodness
& free favour, turn'dst thy
fury,

Thankful

fury to clemency ; & when
in Justice thou mightest
have swept us all from the
face of the Earth, & never
more to let us have been a
People, then commandest
thou the slaying Angel to
sheath his Sword, & in the
midst of this our desolat-
tion, it pleased thee most
wonderfully to command
health and Salvation, & to
restore us suddenly to joy
and gladness. We saw thy
great mercies, O Lord, far
to surpass our hope ; and all
the World doth see and
know that thou art more
merciful, than we can be
thankful, thou hast resto-
red health & comfort again
unto

Remembrances.

unto us, and given yet a longer day to thine unprofitable Servants; thou hast offered us conditions of peace, if we shall not now be unmindful of them. Lord make every one of us whom thou hast preserved from, or delivered out of the jaws of Death, wisely careful to make a right use of this respite, & to redeem the time, that none of us return with the Dog to his Vomit, to run any longer after those sins that so made us run from our houses, & from our dearest Friends, & will if we go on in them without repentance, send us with a vengeance, utter-

P

Iy

ly from thy blessed Presence: But, Lord, be thou as wonderful in rescuing our Souls from the power of our prevailing sins, as thou wert in delivering our Bodies from that raging sickness, and settle our Hearts in thy fear, that we may ever find thy favour. And good Lord God, we beseech thee, make us ever thankfully mindful of this great mercy to our selves, and wonderful deliverance of our Land, from that noysome sickness, and fearful Plague; and accept, we pray thee, this our humble Sacrifice, where we desire to offer up our selves with

Remembrances.

with these our most hearty Thanks and Prayers unto Thee, in the Mediation of Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*



Another Thanksgiving for the stay of the Plague, and our deliverance from it, 1665.

77 **W**E will magnifie thee, O God, our King, and will praise thy Name for ever and ever; because in the midst of wrath, remembering mercy, thou hast delivered our souls from death, and preserved us from the noysome

Thankful

Pestilence. It is not for our
righteousness, O Lord, nor
for the cleanness of our
Hands in thy sight, that
when Thousands better
than our selves have fallen
besides us, and Ten Thou-
sands at our right-hand, de-
struction has not come nigh
us, but we yet remain alive,
as it is this day. 'Tis thou, O
Lord, who dost wound and
heal again, killest and mak-
est alive, bringest to Hell
and back from thence.
Thou hast vouchsafed a-
bove all humane Aids and
Means, such is thy Power
and Goodness, to command
thy Angel to stay his hand,
and spare us. We there-
fore

Remembrances.

fore offer up unto thee at once, the oblation of hearty thanksgiving for this our great deliverance, and of humble and earnest Prayer for all those that are yet afflicted, beseeching thee for thy Son Jesus Christ his sake to be gracious unto them & us, that both they and we in joynt affection, may acknowledge the Justice of thy Punishment, and Record thine infinite Mercy in sparing us miserable sinners: And this we do in the Name of thy Son, and our Saviour; to whom, with thee, and the Holy Ghost, be all praise & glory now and ever. *Amen.*

P 3 Almighty

Thankful

A Lmighty God, who in
thy late dreadful Vi-
sitation hast covered with
thy Hand thine Anointed
Servant our gracious Sove-
reign Lord King *James*, so
that no evil has happened
unto him : And also hast
compassed with thy mer-
ciful protection, the Queen
and the whole Royal Fa-
mily, so that no Plague has
come nigh their Dwelling :
We acknowledge with all
thankfulness this thy di-
stinguishing, conspicuous
Mercy vouchsafed at once
unto his Majesty and his
Dominions : Beseeching
thee to continue still thy
gracious

Remembrances.

gracious goodness towards
them, to the glory of thy
Name, and the welfare
and prosperity of thy
Church; and this we beg
for Jesus Christ his sake.

Amen.

FINIS

Verſes of MANKS MORTALITY.

With others.

Of the hope of his RESURRECTION.

78 **L**ike as the Damask Roſe you ſee,

Or like the Bloſſom on a Tree.

Or like the dainty Flower in *May*,

Or like the Morning to the Day,

Or like the Sun, or like the Shade,

Or like the Gourd which *Jonas* had,



Even

Even such is Man whose Thread is spun,
Drawn out and cut, and so is done,
The Rose withers, the Blossom blisseth,
The Flower fades, the Morning hasteth;
The Sun sets, the shadow flies,
The Gourd consumes, and Man he dies.
Like to the Grass that's newly sprung,
Or like a Tale that's new begun,
Or like the Bird that's here to day,
Or like the pearled Dew of *May*.

the sun's running, the writings blot.

Verses of Man's Mortality.

Or like an Hour, or like a Span,
Or like the singing of a Swan.

Even such is Man who lives by breath,
Is here, now there, in life and death.

The Grass withers, the Tale is ended,
The Bird is flown, the Dew's ascended,
The Hour is short, the Span not long,
The Swan's near Death, Man's life is done.

Like

Like the Bubble in the Brook;
Or in a Glass much like a Look;
Or like the Shurtle in Weaver's hand,
Or like the Writing on the Sand,
Or like a Thought or like a Dream,
Or like the gliding of the Stream;
Even such is Man, who lives by breath,
Is here, now there, in life and death;
The Bubble's out, the Look's forgot,
The Shurtle's flung, the Writings blot.

Verses of Man's Mortality:

The Thought is past, the Dream is gone,
The Water glide, Man's life is done.

Like to an Arrow from the Bow,

Or like swift course of Water flow,

Or like that time, 'twixt Flood and Ebb,

Or like the Spider's tender Webb,

Or like a Race, or like a Gole,

Or like the dealing of a dole;

Even

Even such is Man, whose brittle state,
Is always subject unto Fate:

The Arrow's shot, the Flood soon spent,
The Time no Time, the Web soon rent,
The Race soon run, the Gole soon won,
The Dole soon dealt, Man's life soon done.

Like to the lightning from the Sky,

Or like a Post, that quick doth hie,

Or like a Quaver in short Song,

Or like a Journey three dayes long.

Verses on Man's Mortality.

Or like the snow when Summer's come,
Or like the Pear, or like the Plum.

Even such is Man, who heaps up sorrow,
Lives but this day, and dies to morrow.

The Lightnings pass, the Post must go,

The Song is short, the Journey's so,

The Pear doth rot, the Plum doth fall,

The Snow dissolves, and so must all.

Verſes.

ON MANS RESURRECTION.

Like to the Seed put in Earth's Womb,
Or like dead *Lazarus* in his Tomb,
Or like *Tabitha* being aſleep,
Or *Jonas* like within the deep,
Or like the Night or Stars by Day,
Which ſeem to vaniſh clean away :

Even

Verses on Man's Resurrection

Even so this death Man's life bereaves,
But being dead, Man death deceives,
The Seed it springeth, *Lazarus* standeth,
Tabitha wakes and *Jonas* landeth,
This Nighr is past, the Stars remain
So Man that dies shall live again.

Mor's mea vna mltis

Ther

The BELMANS SOUND.

For the Fifth of November.

79
A Wake Britain's Subjects all with one accord,
Extol and Praise, and Magnifie the Lord.
Humble your selves, and with Devotions sing,
Praises of thanks to God for our most gracious King,
This was the Night, when in a darksome Cell,
Treason was found in Earth, but hatch'd in Hell.

And

The Bell Man's Jourd for the Fifth of November.

And had it took effect, what would avail our sorrow!
The train being laid to have blown's up o'th' morrow.
Yet God, our Guide, reveal'd the damned Plot,
And they themselves destroy'd, and we were not.
Then let us not forget him thanks to render,
That hath preserv'd and kept our Faith's Defender.

The BELMANS SOUND.

30. **T**HE Night's well spent, the day draws night,
Awake from Sleep and sin deſe.

All ſluggiſh Noſh expel away,
Have ſtill in mind the Judgment Day,
When Dead ſhall riſe, and Trumpets Call,
The Graves ſhall open wide withal,
Awake from Sleep, awake from ſin,
With voice and heart to call on him.

Who from above pleas'd to descend;
From Satan's Malice us to defend.
Our forleis Souls to that rich Grace,
Where we may still behold his Face,
Let us repair, and God implore,
That henceforth we transgress no more,
And that our joy be at this tide,
That we in him be satisfy'd:
Then shall we all for his dear sake,
Be blest asleepe, be blest awake,



20044 D FINIS

